

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

Tongass National Forest

R10-MB-519a

December 2004



Shoreline Outfitter/Guide

Record of Decision and Final Environmental Impact Statement

Volume I: Record of Decision and FEIS Executive Summary





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Alaska Region
Tongass National Forest

648 Mission Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901
Phone: (907) 225-3101
Fax: (907) 228-6215

File Code: 1950-3

Date: December 13, 2004

Dear Reader,

Here is your copy of the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide Record of Decision (ROD) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The project area includes most of the shoreline areas on Admiralty National Monument and on the Hoonah, Juneau, and Sitka Ranger Districts on the Tongass National Forest. The ROD documents my final decision on the Selected Alternative and the factors considered in reaching the decision. The effective date of implementation for the decision and the Notice of Rights of Appeal are also specified in the ROD.

Copies of the ROD and the FEIS have been directly mailed to those people who requested to be on the project mailing list. Copies of this ROD and FEIS are also available for review at Forest Service offices throughout the Tongass. For more information, contact Bill Tremblay at (907) 772-5877.

As the Forest Supervisor, I am responsible for this decision. I want to thank those of you who took the time to review and comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Your interest in the management of the Tongass National Forest is appreciated.

Sincerely,

FORREST COLE
Forest Supervisor



Shoreline Outfitter/Guide

Record of Decision and Final Environmental Impact Statement

**Tongass National Forest
USDA Forest Service, Alaska**

Lead Agency

USDA Forest Service
Tongass National Forest

Responsible Official

Forrest Cole
Forest Supervisor
Tongass National Forest
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

For Further Information Contact

Bill Tremblay
Petersburg Supervisor's Office
Tongass National Forest
P.O. Box 309
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
907-772-3841

Abstract

The USDA Forest Service proposes to allocate commercial recreation carrying capacity on the analysis area that includes: Admiralty Island National Monument, Juneau, Hoonah, and Sitka Ranger Districts. Recreation carrying capacity allocations vary among alternatives. The actions analyzed in this Final EIS are designed to implement direction contained in the 1997 Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan. This environmental impact statement describes five alternatives that provide different combinations of resource outputs and effects.

Organization of the Document

Volume I: Record of Decision and FEIS Executive Summary

- Record of Decision (ROD)**
- ROD Appendix A: Use Area Cards**
- ROD Appendix B: Large Group Area Cards**
- FEIS Executive Summary**

Volume II: FEIS (Chapters)

- Chapter 1: Purpose and Need**
- Chapter 2: Alternatives**
- Chapter 3: Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences**
- Chapter 4: Lists**

Volume III: FEIS (Appendices)

- Appendix A: Use Area Cards**
- Appendix B: Large Group Area Cards**
- Appendix C: Mitigation**
- Appendix D: Monitoring**
- Appendix E: Management Direction**
- Appendix F: Recreation Management Concepts**
- Appendix G: Response to Comments on the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide Draft EIS**

Contents

Volume I: Record of Decision and FEIS Executive Summary

Record of Decision (ROD)

Introduction	ROD-1
Purpose and Need	ROD-1
Description of the Analysis Area.....	ROD-1
Public Involvement.....	ROD-2
Decision	ROD-3
Changes in Seasonal Dates.....	ROD-5
Alternative Comparison of Group Use Days by Season	ROD-6
Use Areas at or Approaching Current Existing Use.....	ROD-6
Large Group Areas	ROD-7
Period of Implementation	ROD-13
Reasons for the Decision	ROD-13
Responses to Specific Comments to the Draft Shoreline EIS	ROD-13
Group Size Determination.....	ROD-14
Management of Large Groups of People	ROD-14
How Issues Were Addressed	ROD-17
Issue 1. Availability of Recreation Opportunities for Guided and Unguided Recreationists	ROD-17
Issue 2. Economic Opportunities and Potential Effects on Outfitter/Guide Businesses	ROD-17
Issue 3. Conflicts within the Commercial Recreation Industry.....	ROD-18
Alternatives Considered But Not Selected	ROD-19
Alternatives Considered But Eliminated from Detailed Study.....	ROD-21
Environmentally Preferred Alternative.....	ROD-22
Planning Record	ROD-22
Mitigation Measures	ROD-22
Monitoring	ROD-22
Findings Required by Law	ROD-23
Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan.....	ROD-23
Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as reauthorized in 1988).....	ROD-23
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.....	ROD-23
Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972	ROD-24
The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (as amended).....	ROD-24
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934 (16 USDF 66, et seq.).....	ROD-24
Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Section 810, Subsistence Evaluation	ROD-24
National Historic Preservation Act	ROD-25
Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (as amended)	ROD-26
Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988.....	ROD-26

Contents—Volume I

Other Disclosures	ROD-26
Effects on Prime Farm Land, Range Land, and Forest Land	ROD-26
Effects on Civil Rights, Women, and Minorities	ROD-26
Executive Order 11593	ROD-26
Executive Order 11988 Floodplains.....	ROD-26
Executive Order 11990 Wetlands	ROD-27
Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice	ROD-27
Executive Order 12962 Recreational Fisheries	ROD-27
Executive Order 13007 Indian Sacred Sites.....	ROD-27
Implementation of the Decision	ROD-28
Right to Appeal	ROD-29

ROD Appendices

ROD Appendix A—Use Area Cards.....	ROD A-1
ROD Appendix B—Large Group Area Cards.....	ROD B-1

Executive Summary

Introduction	ES-1
Proposed Action	ES-1
Purpose and Need.....	ES-2
Decision Framework	ES-2
Decision	ES-2
Responsible Official.....	ES-3
Description of the Analysis Area	ES-3
Public Involvement.....	ES-3
Issues	ES-4
Alternatives Considered in Detail	ES-5
Alternative 1—No Action.....	ES-5
Alternative 2—Proposed Action	ES-6
Alternative 3.....	ES-6
Alternative 4.....	ES-7
Alternative 5.....	ES-8
Identification of the Preferred Alternative.....	ES-9
Comparison of the Alternatives.....	ES-10
Mitigation and Monitoring	ES-12

List of Tables

Record of Decision

Table ROD-1. Selected Alternative, Commercial Allocation by Use Area	ROD-4
Table ROD-2. Spring Season End Dates for Use Areas.....	ROD-5
Table ROD-3. Group Day Allocation by Season by Alternative	ROD-6
Table ROD-4. Selected Alternative-Use Areas Where Current Use is Approaching (near 80 Percent), At, or Over the Allocation, by Seasons.....	ROD-7
Table ROD-5. Enclaves Selected For The Selected Alternative	ROD-7
Table ROD-6. Selected Alternative, Fifteen-Percent Large Group Areas.....	ROD-6
Table ROD-7. Comparison of Alternatives by Issue, Including the Selected Alternative ..	ROD-16

ROD Appendix A

Table ROD A-1. List of Use Areas	ROD A-2
--	---------

ROD Appendix B

Table ROD B-1. List of Large Group Areas (Enclaves)	ROD B-1
Table ROD B-2. List of Large Group Areas (Fifteen Percent Areas)	ROD B-2
Table ROD B-3. Large Group Areas Considered but Eliminated	ROD B-76

Executive Summary

Table Summary-1. Comparison of Alternatives, General	ES-10
Table Summary-2. Comparison of Alternatives by Issue.....	ES-11

Contents—Volume I

List of Figures

ROD

Figure ROD 1-1. Modified Alternative 4 Shoreline Outfitter/Guide EIS Large Group Areas
(Chichagof & Baranof Islands) ROD-9

Figure ROD 1-2. Modified Alternative 4 Shoreline Outfitter/Guide EIS Large Group Areas
(Admiralty Island & Mainland) ROD-11

ROD Appendix A

Figure ROD A-1. Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS Analysis Area ROD A-3

ROD Appendix B

Figure ROD B-1. Vicinity Map Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS Analysis Area ROD B-3

Record of Decision

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide Final Environmental Impact Statement

USDA Forest Service
Tongass National Forest, Alaska

- Admiralty National Monument
- Hoonah Ranger District
- Juneau Ranger District
- Sitka Ranger District

Introduction

This Record of Decision documents my decision to select Alternative 5 with modifications from the Shoreline Final Environmental Impact Statement (Shoreline FEIS). This decision includes the level of commercial recreation use by season to be permitted within the coastal zone on most of Admiralty Island National Monument, and the Hoonah, Juneau and Sitka Ranger Districts. The decision also identifies specific locations where use by large commercial recreation groups will be allowed. This decision is based on the analysis and evaluation in the Shoreline FEIS and will be in effect beginning in the 2005-operating season through the 2009-operating season.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of this action is to manage outfitter/guide use of the Tongass National Forest shoreline zone within the analysis area consistent with the Tongass Land and Resources Management Plan of 1997 (Forest Plan). This management is necessary to balance commercial and non-commercial recreational opportunities, reduce the potential for user conflicts, and to maintain quality recreation experiences without degrading forest resources or the recreation experiences for both guided and unguided recreationists.

Description of the Analysis Area

The Shoreline Outfitter/Guide analysis area included approximately 7,018,700 acres along the shoreline of Admiralty Island National Monument, and the Hoonah, Sitka, and Juneau Ranger Districts on the northern half of the Tongass National Forest.

Record of Decision

This translates to approximately 5,291 miles of national forest shoreline. The shoreline zone of the analysis area extends one-half mile inland from mean high tide. Nearly 988,030 acres of the shoreline zone is national forest.

Two areas on Admiralty Island were excluded from the analysis: Mitchell Bay and environs, which is the area surrounding the village of Angoon; and the Pack Creek Zoological Area. The Mitchell Bay and environs area has unique Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) requirements, which require a separate analysis. Pack Creek Zoological Area has specific Forest Plan direction and is managed under a separate management plan. In addition, the national forest shorelines associated with the Juneau and Sitka road systems are not included in this analysis because they are managed within the developed recreation program.

Public Involvement

The initial public involvement was used to identify issues in this analysis. This initial work with the public, agencies, tribes and other organizations began in October 1998 and continued through the summer of 2001. (See the Shoreline FEIS Chapter 1, page 13) Some people who responded during scoping were concerned that recreation growth would compromise values they feel are important, including: solitude; opportunities for primitive or semi-primitive experiences; access to fish and wildlife for viewing, hunting, fishing or subsistence. Increasing numbers of commercially guided recreationists may lead to crowding and displacement of residents and the unguided public, and negatively affect fish and wildlife resources in some locations. Specifically, concern is growing about increasing commercial recreation use on the Tongass National Forest. In response to this concern, the Forest Service has limited requests by commercial outfitter/guides for expanding services until a commercial recreation allocation decision was completed. The result of this work was the issuance of the original Notice of Intent (NOI), which was published in the *Federal Register* on January 18, 2000.

Response from the public led to revision of the project scope, broadening the focus beyond the initial emphasis to include the overall allocation for shoreline commercial activities. It was felt that the conflicts between segments of the outfitter/guiding industry, as well as the unintended consequences of incremental management, would be better addressed in a document that looked at remote area recreation in a more holistic fashion. A Revised NOI was published in the *Federal Register* on April 5, 2001 to inform the public of changes in the scope of the analysis and the revised schedule.

Record of Decision

Significant issues identified for this document include:

- Issue 1 - Availability of Recreation Opportunities for Guided and Unguided Recreationists
- Issue 2 - Economic Opportunities and Potential Effects on Outfitter/Guide Businesses
- Issue 3 - Conflicts within the Commercial Recreation Industry

The Forest Service published a Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register* for the Shoreline Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Shoreline DEIS) with a 90-day public comment period on August 8, 2002. Due to a mistake with a mailing list, a revised Notice of Availability for the Shoreline DEIS was published in the *Federal Register* on September 4, 2002, which extended the timeframe for comments to the document. The preferred alternative in the Shoreline DEIS was Alternative 5.

Comments to the DEIS were evaluated (Appendix G of the FEIS) and based on these comments, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was prepared.

Decision

Based on the analysis and evaluation in the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS, it is my decision to select Alternative 5, with modifications (Selected Alternative) as presented below, for implementation through the 2009-operating season. The Selected Alternative allows for a maximum of 7,888 group days of commercial recreation use (Table ROD-1) within the analysis area rather than the 17,530 group days identified in the Shoreline FEIS for Alternative 5. The adjustments to group days by Use Area are displayed on Table ROD-1. The adjustments to the number of group days in the Selected Alternative are based on review and consideration of comments to the Shoreline DEIS.

Wheeled airplane landings for commercial recreation use for Neka Bay or Mud Bay on the Hoonah Ranger District were considered under Alternative 5. Because the use of wheeled planes is not a typical method of access for most sites evaluated in this analysis I have decided to defer the decision of whether or not to allowed wheeled plane use at these locations to the discretion of the District Ranger. Comments provided to this analysis regarding this specific issue will be a part of any future decision.

The Selected Alternative will:

Authorize commercial groups of up to 75 persons as appropriate by Forest Plan Land Use Designations (LUDs). Groups larger than 75 persons will require a separate evaluation and decision.

Include 35 of the large group use areas displayed in Alternative 5 (28 Enclaves and 7 Fifteen-Percent Areas). The Damp Marker Fifteen-Percent Area is not included in the Selected Alternative upon the recommendation from the Hoonah District Ranger. The Damp Marker area already receives a considerable amount of existing commercial recreation use without this designation.

Land Use

Designation (LUD) —

A defined area of land, identified by the Forest Plan, to which specific management direction is applied.

Record of Decision

Table ROD-1. Selected Alternative, Commercial Allocation by Use Area
Commercial Allocation (Group Days)

Use Area	General Location	Spring	Summer	Fall	Total	Group Change from FEIS Alt. 5
01-01	Skagway Area	50	150	25	225	-147
01-02	Haines Area	30	50	25	105	-81
01-03	East Chilkats	50	150	50	250	-493
01-04A	Berners Bay	40	75	25	140	-126
01-04B	N. Juneau Coast	30	75	25	130	-30
01-04C	Taku Inlet	40	150	25	215	-103
01-04D	Slocum Inlet	40	75	25	140	-126
01-05A	Taku Harbor	30	75	25	130	-72
01-05B	Port Snettisham	50	300	50	400	-343
01-05C	Windham Bay	50	300	75	425	-541
01-05D	Tracy Arm	30	100	25	155	-290
01-05E	Fords Terror	15	25	15	55	-53
04-01A	Gut Bay, Baranof	27	96	20	143	-324
04-01B	Port Armstrong	28	68	19	115	-293
04-02A	Redoubt Lake	11	32	10	53	-149
04-02B	Whale Bay	50	168	34	252	-799
04-03	Sitka Area	100	584	78	762	-1,421
04-04A	Lake Eva, Rodman Bay	28	235	18	281	-186
04-04B	Kelp Bay	30	184	21	235	-291
04-04C	Baranof Warm Springs	5	38	6	49	-126
04-05	SW Admiralty	35	75	40	150	-73
04-06A	Pybus Bay	20	100	15	135	-40
04-06B	Eliza Harbor	25	50	15	90	-85
04-07	Gambier Bay	30	150	30	210	-113
04-08	NE Admiralty	40	150	40	230	-513
04-09	Seymour Canal	30	200	30	260	-112
04-10A	Greens Creek	15	100	25	140	-51
04-10B	NW Admiralty	30	100	25	155	-105
04-11	Hoonah Area	55	328	55	438	-157
04-12	Tenakee Inlet	51	137	52	240	-556
04-13	Peril Strait	101	160	53	314	-619
04-14	Slocum Arm	41	54	18	113	-312
04-15	West Chichagof	58	206	32	296	-659
04-16A	Point Adolphus	33	159	23	215	-135
04-16B	Mud Bay	33	159	23	215	-135
04-16C	Idaho Inlet	33	159	23	215	-40
04-16D	Port Althorp	33	156	23	212	-43
Total		1,397	5,373	1,118	7,888	-9,742

Record of Decision

Changes in seasonal dates

In this decision, I am changing the beginning and ending dates for the spring, summer and fall seasons as discussed on page 9 of Chapter 3 in the FEIS. These changes better reflect the pattern of use by outfitter/guides as reported in the 1999 – 2001 actual use reports. The changes are as follows:

- The spring season will begin on April 25 rather than on April 20 for all Use Areas.
- The fall season will end on October 10 rather than on October 31 for all Use Areas.
- The spring season will close either on May 20 or May 31 depending on the end of the brown bear season as identified by State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) for the Use Area.

The spring season end dates are shown below for each Use Area.

Table ROD-2. Spring Season End Dates for Use Areas

May 20 (14 Use Areas)		May 31 (23 Use Areas)	
04-04A	Lake Eva, Rodman Bay	01-01	Skagway Area
04-04B	Kelp Bay	01-02	Haines Area
04-04C	Baranof Warm Springs	01-03	East Chilkats
04-05	SW Admiralty	01-04A	Berners Bay
04-06A	Pybus Bay	01-04B	North Juneau Coast
04-06B	Eliza Harbor	01-04C	Taku Inlet
04-07	Gambier Bay	01-04D	Slocum Inlet
04-08	NE Admiralty	01-05A	Taku Harbor
04-09	Seymour Canal	01-05B	Port Snettisham
04-10A	Greens Creek	01-05C	Windham Bay
04-10B	NW Admiralty	01-05D	Tracy Arm
04-11	Hoonah Area	01-05E	Fords Terror
04-12	Tenakee Inlet	04-01A	Gut Bay
04-13	Peril Strait	04-01B	Port Armstrong
		04-02A	Redoubt Lake
		04-02B	Whale Bay
		04-03	Sitka Area
		04-14	Slocum Arm
		04-15	West Chichagof
		04-16A	Point Adolphus
		04-16B	Mud Bay
		04-16C	Idaho Inlet
		04-16D	Port Althorp

Record of Decision

The Selected Alternative will result in less potential for conflicts in some Use Areas than in Alternatives 1, 2, 3, and 5, especially during the spring and fall seasons. The Selected Alternative will result in some Use Areas more crowded in the fall and spring seasons than in Alternative 4.

My decision to modify the dates for the summer season results in more group days available to outfitter/guides earlier in 14 Use Areas (As shown in Table ROD-2). I believe this change is a minor adjustment in regard to the overall assessment of impact analysis in this environmental impact statement and does not warrant additional analysis beyond what is discussed in Chapter 3 beginning on page 9 of the FEIS.

Alternative Comparison of Group Use Days by Season

The following table displays the group days by season for commercial recreation use for each alternative.

Table ROD-3. Group Day Allocation by Season by Alternative

Alternative	Spring Allocation	Summer Allocation	Fall Allocation	Total
1	0	0	0	0
2	1,693	12,588	1,894	16,175
3	8,463	21,359	9,475	39,297
4	1,202	3,722	1,135	6,059
Selected Alt.	1,397	5,373	1,118	7,888
5	1,995	10,737	4,798	17,530

While the Selected Alternative uses different season lengths to determine the final allocation of group days, the comparison of alternatives to each other is still valid since actual use information provided by commercial recreation users show that use would likely take place during a similar time period.

Use Areas at or approaching current existing use

Table ROD-4 identifies Use Areas in the Selected Alternative that are either at, or approaching, use levels authorized by my decision. A Use Area is considered “approaching” an allocation use level when the current level of commercial recreation use is 80 percent of the total commercial allocation for that Use Area. As a Use Area meets or reaches the allocation for commercial recreation, the District Ranger will either use administrative discretion to limit additional use or follow direction provided by Forest Service Manual 2712.1 – Prospectus, to allocate group days through a formal process when there is a competitive interest for providing visitor services.

Record of Decision

Table ROD-4. Selected Alternative - Use Areas Where Current Use Is Approaching (near 80 Percent), At, or Over the Allocation, by Season

Use Area	General Location	Spring	Summer	Fall
04-05	SW Admiralty			Approaching
04-06a	Pybus Bay	At	Approaching	
04-06B	Eliza Harbor	Approaching		
04-13	Peril Strait	Approaching		
04-16A	Point Adolphus		Approaching	
Seasonal Total		3	2	1
Grand Total = 5 Use Areas, 6 Seasons				

Large Group Areas

I have chosen the following twenty-eight (28) Enclaves and seven (7) Fifteen-percent areas from Alternative 5 to be a part of the Selected Alternative. These large group areas provide for the accommodation of groups in a variety of settings consistent with Forest Plan direction. Group sizes will adhere to the direction in the Forest Plan for each specific LUD.

Table ROD-5. Enclaves Selected For The Selected Alternative

Use Area	Enclave Area	Use Area	Enclave Area
01-01	Katzehin Falls	04-04A	Rodman Bay
01-02	Sullivan Mountain	04-04A	Saook
01-04C	Sunny Cove	04-04B	Hanus Bay
01-05B	Mallard Cove	04-08	Cordwood Creek
01-05B	Williams Cove *	04-08	Fowler Creek
01-05B	Point Anmer	04-11	Eight-Fathom Dock
01-05B	West Gilbert Way	04-11	Kennel Creek
01-05C	Fanshaw	04-11	Red Cliff Islands
01-05C	North Windham Bay	04-11	Salt Lake Bay Dock
01-05C	Port Houghton	04-12	Corner Bay Road
01-05C	Sand Bay	04-13	Sitkoh Bay Road
04-03	Eagle River Road	04-15	Bohemia Basin
04-04A	Lake Eva Trail	04-15	Three Hill Island
04-04A	Point Elizabeth	04-16D	George Island

*Williams Cove will be used as an Enclave instead of No Name Cove in this Use Area.

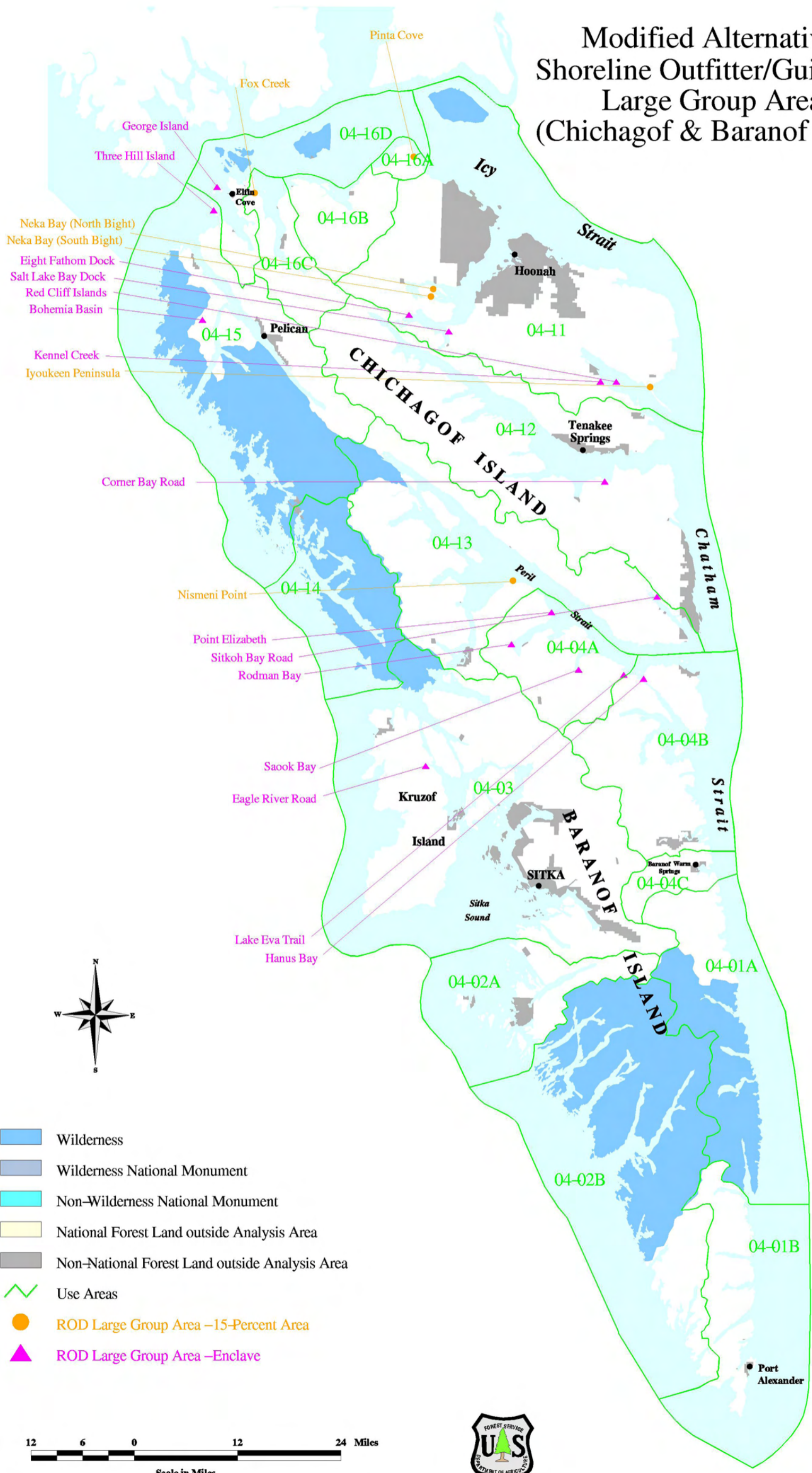
Record of Decision

Table ROD-6. Selected Alternative, Fifteen-Percent Large Group Areas

Use Area	Fifteen-Percent Area
01-05B	Point Coke
04-11	Iyoukeen Peninsula
04-11	Neka Bay – South Bight
04-11	Neka Bay – North Bight
04-13	Nismeni Point
04-16A	Pinta Cove
04-16C	Fox Creek

See ROD Maps 1-1 and 1-2 for locations of Enclaves and Fifteen-Percent areas.

Modified Alternative 4
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
Large Group Areas
(Chichagof & Baranof Islands)



**Modified Alternative 4
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
Large Group Areas
(Admiralty Island & Mainland)**

Legend:

- Wilderness
- Wilderness National Monument
- Non-Wilderness National Monument
- National Forest Land outside Analysis Area
- Non-National Forest Land outside Analysis Area
- Use Areas
- ROD Large Group Area - 15-Percent Area
- ROD Large Group Area - Enclave

Scale in Miles: 0, 12, 24

North Arrow

US Forest Service Department of Agriculture

ROD 1-2

ROD 1-2

Record of Decision

Period of Implementation

This ROD authorizes the issuance of permits for commercial recreation through the next 5 years beginning with the 2005 outfitter/guide's spring operating season. At the end of that timeframe, or sooner if warranted, the Forest Service will review new information including monitoring of resource effects to determine whether to continue implementing the decision or to supplement the FEIS in accordance with regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)(40 CFR 1502.9) and Forest Service Handbook direction (FSH 1909.15 Chapter 18).

Reasons for the Decision

In making my decision, I worked to ensure consideration of all issues, and took into account the competing interests and values of the public. A mix of resources and uses for the public continues to be available under the Selected Alternative within the framework of existing laws, regulations, policies, public needs and desires, and capabilities of the land, while meeting the stated purpose and need for the project.

The shoreline of the Tongass National Forest offers opportunities that are unique in the global tourism market. While the lure of these wonders attract thousands of visitors annually, I have also recognized the value of areas that are home to many people who rely on these same areas for their livelihood, sustenance, recreation and quality of life. In the accommodation of the balance between existing uses and benefits to all potential users, I chose a level of commercial recreation use that I believe is appropriate during the life of this document.

The Forest Plan provides the framework for the use and enjoyment of the National Forest System lands. It provides land management prescriptions, as well as standards and guidelines for the long-term desired future for these areas. Desired future conditions are long-term goals. The Forest Plan specifies no more than one half of the appropriate recreation carrying capacity allocated to commercial recreation users. Based on historic growth rates in the tourism industry the level of commercial recreation use provided in my decision will be sufficient for growth in the commercial recreation industry while protecting other forest users and forest resources. Authorizing a greater level of commercial recreation use cannot be supported by current management controls without impacting the lifestyle of many residents within the communities affected by this decision.

Responses to Specific Comments to the Draft Shoreline EIS

The Shoreline FEIS incorporated many suggested changes suggested by comments to the Draft EIS. How the comments to the Draft Shoreline EIS were addressed is documented in Appendix G of the Final Shoreline EIS. Because there were quite a few questions related to how large groups were to be identified or managed in the project area, I felt it important to clarify some questions raised in the comments to

Record of Decision

the Draft Shoreline EIS here in the ROD. Specifically, there were questions about how a group is defined or how a group might count against the commercial recreation allocation for a Use Area. Also, there were questions about how larger commercial recreation groups might be managed at the large group areas designated by my decision.

Following are clarifications of each of these points.

Group Size Determination

Currently, the Tongass National Forest accommodates a range of commercial recreation group sizes. These groups may vary from an outfitter/guide with just one person to a mid-sized cruise ship that may want to bring as many as 75 people on shore. Group size may vary by site but must be consistent with the management direction for each LUD in the Forest Plan. For example, outfitter/guide use within a Wilderness LUD is generally restricted to group sizes of 12 persons or less, while LUDs that allow for a higher level of development may accommodate groups of 50 or more going ashore. General guidelines for group sizes are identified for each LUD on page 4-40 of the Forest Plan and further explained in Chapter 3 on page 8.

For purposes of counting outfitter/guide group use against the total group day allocation for a Use Area; a commercially outfitted or guided group of 1-12 people, regardless of how they split up in a single Use Area, will count as one group day against the total group days authorized for the Use Area. Accordingly, a group with 13-20 people will count as two group days, a group with 21-40 people will count as three group days and groups with 41-75 people will count as four group days. Groups of varying size will be counted only as one group when using a designated large group area as discussed in the following discussion.

Management of Large Groups of People

The Draft Shoreline EIS introduced the idea of setting aside areas where outfitter/guides could bring large groups of people (21-75 people) onto National Forest System lands. This type of use is already occurring in limited locations on some districts throughout the Tongass. It was anticipated that large groups might focus some use at these locations, which could reduce the number and types of contacts with smaller groups or individuals also using the forest. Most of these areas are of sufficient size where large groups may go on shore and find enough room to enjoy an interpretive walk or to explore other resources like bird watching. These areas could allow, operators for larger groups to operate more efficiently rather than making an extra effort to disperse their groups throughout a bay (see Appendix A for Use Area descriptions).

To encourage the use of these areas, I will consider any group, up to 75 people, that recreates within a single designated Large Group Area to be counted as one group against the total commercial allocation allowed by season for a Use area. (See ROD map for the Large Group Areas I have designated by my decision.)

Other details related to the management of groups of people on National Forest System lands outside of Enclaves or Fifteen-Percent areas include:

1. If a group uses more than one Use Area in a day, a group day is counted towards the group day commercial recreation allocation for each Use Area. A larger group of people may count as a multiple of group days depending

Record of Decision

on the size of the group as previously noted. (Examples; A group of 12 people visiting two different Use Areas in one day would count as one group day for each Use Area. However, a group of 20 people visiting the same Use Areas would count as two groups against the allocation of group days for each Use Area visited.)

2. Group day use is counted by calendar day. For example, a group of six people camping for one night will count as two group days within that Use Area since they use part of two calendar days and their group size is less than 12 persons total.
3. Members of a group consist of the same individuals going ashore on any given calendar day. If new individuals enter a Use Area and join an existing group, or form a new group and go ashore, then additional group days are counted.
4. A group that splits into multiple smaller groups but stays within the sight or sound of each another would be considered as one group. Group sizes may vary by LUD but shall stay consistent with Forest Plan ROS (Recreation Opportunity Spectrum) guidelines (Shoreline FEIS in Chapter 3, page 8).

Outfitter/guides are encouraged to discuss their operations with their permit administrators if there are specific questions regarding the administration of their permits.

Record of Decision

Table ROD-7. Comparison of Alternatives by Issue, Including the Selected Alternative

Issue / Unit of Measure	Alternative					
	1	2	3	4	5	Selected Alternative
Issue 1 – Recreation Opportunities for Guided and Unguided Recreationists						
Total recreation carrying capacity (group days) available to guided recreationists	**	16,175	39,297	6,059	17,530	7,888
Amount of recreation available to unguided recreationists (group days)	40,658	65,141	42,019	75,257	63,786	62,580
Estimated number of people who could use commercial services to access the national forest (assumes average commercial group size of six)	243,948	97,050	235,782	36,354	105,180	47,358
Commercial allocation for spring (opportunities for solitude)	**	1,693	8,463	1,202	1,995	1,397
Commercial allocation for summer (opportunities for solitude)	**	12,588	21,359	3,722	10,737	5,373
Commercial allocation for fall (opportunities for solitude)	**	1,894	9,475	1,135	4,798	1,118
Number of Enclaves allowing large group use	0	0	33	12	28	28
Total area (acres) of Enclaves	0	0	6,100	2,100	4,900	4,900
Number of Fifteen-Percent areas allowing large group use	0	0	13	3	8	7
Total area (acres) of Fifteen-Percent areas	0	0	3,360	570	1,860	1,760
Limits on commercial use in Use Areas with communities	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Issue 2 – Economic Opportunities and Potential Impacts on Commercial Outfitter/Guide Businesses						
Commercial allocation available in group days	NA	16,175	39,297	6,059	17,530	7,888
Percent of recreation capacity allocated to commercial use	3-50**	21	50	8	23	11
Average (1999-2001) commercial use levels in group days	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Group days available for industry growth above current average (1999-2001) use levels	NA	13,675	36,797	3,559	15,030	5,407
Number of Use Area seasons approaching, at, or near allocated capacity	NA	10	0	4	8	6
Number of Enclaves allowing large group use	0	0	33	12	28	28
Number of Fifteen percent areas allowing large group use	0	0	13	3	8	7
Contributes to business stability and certainty by establishing predictable use levels and allowing for multi-year Special Use permits	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Issue 3 – Conflicts Within the Commercial Recreation Industry						
Establishes recreation management seasons	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Limits commercial allocations in the spring season	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Limits commercial allocations in the fall season	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Designates Enclaves and Fifteen-Percent Areas for large group use	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Specifies maximum size of large groups in Large Group Areas	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
** No specific allocation is made. Commercial use is allowed on a case-by-case basis up to 50 percent of the recreation carrying capacity.						

How Issues Were Addressed

Issue 1. Availability of Recreation Opportunities for Guided and Unguided Recreationists

Issue 1 focuses on people who recreate on the national forest. Both guided and unguided recreationists often pursue the same type of recreation experience in many of the same locations. The issue reflects the need for a variety of quality recreation opportunities for both guided and unguided recreationists on the national forest. It revolves around social interactions and recreation experience expectations and the effects on those interactions and expectations from the management of commercial uses.

My decision provides for a moderate amount of commercial recreation growth in most locations in most seasons. While the average amount of commercial recreation use authorized by the Selected Alternative is approximately 11% of the total recreation capacity for the total project area, the level of use for commercial recreation users varies by Use Area to specifically address local conditions and specific concerns. ROD Table-7 shows that the Selected Alternative, when compared to other alternatives, authorizes the second lowest use for the spring and summer seasons and the lowest commercial use in the fall season.

The Selected Alternative also accommodates approximately 62,500 group days for unguided recreation (about 82% of the total estimated recreation carrying capacity). While this number appears similar to Alternatives 4 or 5 in ROD Table-7, the reduction of calendar days in the spring and fall seasons in the Selected Alternative means that there are almost 20,000 fewer group days considered in the Selected Alternatives allocation decision (five fewer calendar days in the Spring season and 16 fewer calendar days in the Fall season). Alternative 1 initially allows for a higher amount of unguided recreation use, but there is uncertainty as to whether or not this situation will endure. Alternative 1 allows for separate analysis to accommodate requests for increases to commercial recreation use, which would erode the existing available capacity for unguided recreation use over time.

The Selected Alternative also provides the second highest potential for solitude of the action alternatives.

This amount of commercial recreation use is consistent with management direction in the Forest Plan and will allow for the continuation of enjoyment and use of National Forest System lands for all users.

Issue 2. Economic Opportunities and Potential Effects on Outfitter/Guide Businesses

My decision will accommodate a reasonable opportunity for expansion of businesses while protecting the experience for all users of the national forest. Considering the analysis area as a whole, within the five-year life of this decision, the commercial recreation industry has the opportunity to nearly double in size. Since the amount of authorized use varies by Use Area, smaller communities should be able to maintain their character without significant impacts from commercial recreation use.

Record of Decision

Since the Draft Shoreline EIS was published, the Forest Service has issued regulations regarding local resident and Native Corporation preference in providing visitor services within Conservation System Units (CSUs) as directed by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). Conservation System Units within this analysis area currently include six congressionally designated wildernesses and one National Recreation Trail. Rivers recommended by the Forest Plan for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System would become CSUs if and when they receive a Congressional designation. Visitor services, as defined in ANILCA, do not include outfitting or guiding for sport hunting or fishing. A further explanation of the ANILCA 1307 regulations is provided in the FEIS in Chapter 3 on page 28.

There were numerous comments to the Draft Shoreline EIS regarding large group areas. The 35 large group areas authorized in this decision provide for a sufficient amount of diversity of experience and number to accommodate reasonable growth for this type of commercial recreation use. Areas considered for either an Enclave or Fifteen-Percent Area designation took in to consideration existing locations used by larger groups and alternative locations. Large groups are not restricted to using these designated locations and can operate on National Forest System lands in other locations as long as the use remains consistent with the LUD standards and guidelines identified by the Forest Plan. The criteria for the management of large groups will provide enough protection of existing uses and resources to allow for the maintenance of the recreation experience for other users and for the protection of other resources.

Issue 3. Conflicts within the Commercial Recreation Industry

When considering the flexibility of schedules by the current outfitter/guides and the use along the shorelines in this analysis area, it is apparent that some conflicts between existing outfitter/guides will continue to occur in all alternatives. My decision will allow for moderate growth in commercial recreation uses that will be monitored for any additional actions needed, so they can be acted upon in a timely manner. While the level of allocated commercial use in most Use Areas will increase and will likely affect some existing uses, the commercial recreation allocation in the Selected Alternative is appropriate to the settings and is consistent with Forest Plan direction.

Six Use Areas are already approaching the commercial recreation allocation set by the Selected Alternative during certain seasons. The District Ranger responsible for the management of the Use Areas of concern will take the actions necessary to ensure commercial recreation use remains within the allocations as specified by my decision and as provided for in direction through Forest Service Manual 2700.

The modification to the starting and ending dates for spring and fall operating seasons addresses several concerns presented in comments to the Draft Shoreline EIS. First, by adjusting the beginning of the spring season and the end of the fall season, the number of days within these seasons is reduced overall, resulting in fewer potential conflicts. Second, closing the spring season in mid-May in some Use Areas will reduce the total number of potential commercial recreation users in areas where there are concentrations of existing commercial uses, specifically brown bear outfitter/guides. Finally, closing the spring season in mid-May when and where the state-regulated brown bear hunting season ends addresses some concerns from commercial recreation uses such as fishing, kayaking, or remote nature tours who

Record of Decision

expressed a desire to have an earlier start to the summer season in some of these same locations.

Alternatives Considered But Not Selected

Alternative 1 - No Action

Alternative 1 represents the existing condition of recreation management in the analysis area. As the "no action" alternative, it would continue the present management practices of the outfitter/guide Special Uses program.

Commercial recreation use could be allowed for up to half of the appropriate capacity, as identified by the Forest Plan, but only after additional analysis. Group sizes would stay consistent with Forest Plan direction but the maximum size of a group considered would not be restricted to any specific size.

This alternative was not chosen because it would not define a specific allocation of the recreation carrying capacity to commercial use. Not defining a commercial recreation capacity would continue the uncertainty for potential recreation growth for the outfitter/guide industry and would lead to further delays in accommodating the general public in their use of National Forest System lands.

Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Alternative 2 was the Proposed Action identified in the initial scoping for this analysis. This alternative identified up to 16,175 commercial recreation group-days for the analysis area. This alternative emphasized a limit on commercial use during the spring and fall seasons to reduce encounters and provide more opportunities for solitude.

Individual Use Area allocations range between approximately 10 and 40 percent of the total recreation carrying capacity. Spring and fall allocations were set at approximately 10 percent of the total carrying capacity. Also, allocations in Use Areas with communities are generally reduced and range between 10 and 30 percent of the carrying capacity. No large group areas were included in this alternative and group size and occurrence would continue to be determined under Forest Plan direction. The alternative would not authorize wheeled airplanes for access by commercial operators. Also no commercial recreation use on the Mud Bay River (Use Area 04-16B) would be authorized.

This alternative was not chosen because the level of growth for commercial recreation use in the summer season would likely negatively impact current users. Also, this alternative does not provide specific locations for use by large groups, which may hinder the growth of some operators currently accommodating larger groups onto National Forest System lands.

Alternative 3

Alternative 3 was developed to evaluate the highest commercial recreation use allocation allowed by the Forest Plan. The 39,297 allocated in this alternative would allow for the most growth in the recreation industry. Half of the total recreation carrying capacity with the analysis area would be allocated to commercial use through all seasons.

A total of 46 large group areas were identified for this alternative (33 Enclaves and 13 Fifteen-percent areas). The maximum group size for an outfitter/guide would be 75 people. All use would adhere to group size requirements as specified by the Forest Plan. This alternative would have the most impact to providing opportunities for solitude. Restrictions on commercial recreation use are primarily for resource

Record of Decision

protection. Limited wheeled airplane landings to support commercial recreation use would be authorized in Neka Bay and Mud Bay with weekly and daily restrictions.

This alternative was not chosen because the level of commercial recreation use would negatively impact local communities through the competition for resources and recreational activities. Also, the large number of sites identified for large group use could have detrimental impacts to existing uses such as subsistence, recreation, hunting, fishing or sightseeing.

Alternative 4

Alternative 4 provided the lowest commercial allocation (up to 6,059 commercial groups). Overall, there is an emphasis on providing more opportunities for recreation experiences while allowing the most opportunities for solitude of all the alternatives.

This alternative allocated approximately eight percent of the total recreation carrying capacity to commercial recreation use for the analysis area as a whole through all seasons. The allocations to each Use Area ranged between 5 and 25 percent of the total carrying capacity. There were a total of 15 large group areas identified by this alternative (12 Enclaves and 3 Fifteen-percent areas). The maximum group size for an outfitter/guide would be 75 people. Limited wheeled airplane landings with daily and weekly restrictions varying by season would be authorized in Mud Bay.

This alternative was not chosen because, in some Use Areas, the proposed levels of commercial recreation use would be too restrictive to accommodate general public use of the national forest through the use of outfitter/guides in some Use Areas. Also too few areas for large group use were identified in this alternative to provide a variety of potential experiences for visiting public.

Alternative 5

Alternative 5 was identified in the Draft Shoreline EIS as the preferred alternative. This alternative provided for a moderate level of commercial use (up to 17,530 commercial group days). Alternative 5 emphasizes limited commercial use during the spring season to reduce encounters and provide more opportunities for solitude.

This alternative allocated approximately 23 percent of the total recreation carrying capacity to commercial recreation use for the analysis area as a whole through all seasons. Allocations in each Use Area ranged from 10 to 40 percent of the carrying capacity. Spring allocation would be about 10 percent of the total carrying capacity. Allocations in Use Areas with communities were generally reduced and ranged from 10 to 40 percent of the total carrying capacity. A total of 36 large group areas were identified for this alternative (28 Enclaves and 8 Fifteen-percent areas). Limited wheeled airplane landings were allowed in Neka and Mud Bays under daily and/or weekly restrictions. Neka Bay would have an additional restriction in that landings would only have been authorized for outfitter/guides accommodating a person with a disability access within the seasonal landing restrictions.

While the recommended commercial recreation use under this Alternative is almost half of what is proposed in Alternative 3, I feel that this alternative still proposes a level of use higher than what can be managed for over the next five years. With this expansion of use, I have concerns for the impacts to local communities. The number of areas for large group use is appropriate to accommodate the need in the foreseeable future and has been incorporated into the Selected Alternative.

Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study

The following alternative and alternative components were considered during the analysis for the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide analysis area but were eliminated from detailed study in this EIS.

No Commercial Use on the National Forest

There was consideration of an alternative that would exclude commercial use of the national forest within the analysis area. Elimination of commercial use on National Forest System lands was dropped from further consideration because this matter is outside the scope of this analysis. Commercial use of the national forest is allowed and encouraged by legislation, specifically the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, the Granger-Thye Act of April 24, 1950, the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964, and Title V, Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976.

This congressional direction is the basis of Forest Service national policy, which encourages commercial recreation to provide for the recreational enjoyment of national forests by people who otherwise may not have the ability or opportunity to do so. Such a ban would deny access to most of the Tongass for a significant proportion of visitors who do not have the necessary knowledge, skills, and equipment to access and enjoy this national forest. In addition, banning commercial use from the national forest would have a detrimental impact on the regional economy, which relies heavily on recreation and tourism. The Tongass National Forest is the main land manager in Southeast Alaska, and other land ownerships could not meet the needs for recreation.

Helicopters

We considered many methods of recreation access, including helicopters in areas outside of wilderness. Historically there have been few outfitter/guide helicopter landings within the analysis area. No helicopter use is currently permitted and no helicopter landings have been proposed by outfitter/guides within the shoreline zone of the analysis area. Therefore helicopter access was considered but eliminated from this analysis.

Off-highway Vehicles (OHVs)

Off-highway vehicles (OHVs) are a popular access method in some parts of the national forest. The IDT considered OHV access, but there has been no authorized historical commercial use from OHVs. The environmental impacts of OHV use are different than the impacts anticipated from limited uses of national forest such as hiking, freshwater fishing and photography, and as such was eliminated from this analysis.

Large Group Areas

Numerous large group areas were considered but then eliminated from consideration. See Appendix B in the FEIS (Table B-2) for a list of the large group areas eliminated from consideration and the reason they were dropped.

Big Game Guided Hunting Allocations

The original 1998 proposed action made specific recreation carrying capacity allocations for big game guided hunting, primarily for brown bear hunting. Based upon public comment and additional analysis, this focus was determined to be too narrow. The proposed action was expanded to include all commercial recreation providers in the overall commercial recreation allocation. Big game guided hunting allocations are now included within the overall commercial recreation allocations in

Record of Decision

the alternatives. Specific allocations to individual guiding businesses will occur through the Special Uses administration process.

Environmentally Preferred Alternative

Based on a comparison of the alternatives and the discussion contained within Chapter 3 of the Final EIS, Alternative 1, the No Action Alternative, is identified in as the environmentally preferred alternative. Commercial recreation use will continue and expand only as more site-specific analysis is completed at a more local scale. Of the action alternatives, Alternative 4 is the environmentally preferred alternative, since it provides a predictable and moderate level of growth that could be monitored and use levels would not have an adverse affect on opportunities for solitude.

Planning Record

The planning record for this project includes the Draft Shoreline EIS, Forest Plan, material incorporated by reference, and materials produced during the environmental analysis of this project. The planning record is available for review at the Sitka Ranger District. The Sitka District Ranger had the responsibility as lead District Ranger for the completion of this project.

Mitigation Measures

The analysis documented in the FEIS discloses possible adverse impacts that may occur from implementing actions proposed under each alternative. Measures have been formulated to mitigate or reduce these impacts. A comprehensive list of mitigation measures that apply to commercial recreation activities in is listed in Appendix C, Mitigation Measures in the FEIS. In addition, site-specific resource concerns and mitigation measures are listed on the Use Area cards in Appendix A and on the Large Group Area Cards in Appendix B in the ROD.

Monitoring

A monitoring plan is provided in Appendix D of the FEIS and is incorporated in this decision. Monitoring will help to determine whether or not additional mitigation measures will be employed to protect the environmental or social conditions as anticipated over the next five years by this decision.

Monitoring is an important component of this project. Recreation use levels are dynamic and fluctuate from year to year. While information about general public use is not readily available, specific monitoring of recreation sites and continued collection of use data through outfitter/guide use reports, help to focus efforts to ensure consistency with Forest Plan direction for both the environmental and social setting. Feedback from people using the National Forest and comments through the analysis of other projects will also contribute to the information regarding the recreation sites and the uses of the forest. Through monitoring and analysis of trends

Record of Decision

over time, the Forest Service can achieve a better understanding of these effects and adapt its management as necessary.

Findings Required by Law

Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan

This decision is consistent with the 1997 Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan. I have reviewed the management direction, standards and guidelines, and the schedule of activities for the project area, and find the Selected Alternative to be consistent with these elements.

Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as reauthorized in 1988)

Actions authorized in the Selected Alternative will not have a direct, indirect, or cumulative effect on any threatened or endangered species in the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide analysis area or elsewhere. The National Marine Fisheries Service was consulted regarding the actions described and the effects on threatened and endangered marine species within the proposed analysis area. Formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was not necessary for this project since no terrestrial threatened or endangered species are known to occur within the analysis area. A Biological Assessment has been completed and is included in the planning record for this project. I have determined that this action will not have any adverse impacts on any threatened or endangered species as required by Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as amended, and the USDA Forest Service Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Plant and Animal Species Policy (FSM 2670).

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

The potential effects of the project on Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) are discussed in Chapter 3 of the Final EIS. The potential for adverse effects on riparian habitat by outfitter/guide activities leads to the determination that the project may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat. No effects on associated salmon prey species are anticipated by the selected alternative.

EFH species that may be affected by Forest Service actions include pink, chum, and coho salmon. As the potential for increased foot traffic in riparian areas rises with available commercial use, the likelihood of soil erosion increases (Table 3-33). Sediments originating from soil erosion may adversely affect EFH. Sediments may affect incubating eggs and larvae by reducing water quality and intergravel flow for developing eggs and larvae.

The level of adverse effects will be determined through visual inspections of rutting or other noticeable site disturbance caused by increased foot traffic. Implementation of BMPs 12.6 (Riparian Area Designation and Protection) and 16.4 (Trail Construction and Maintenance) and mitigation measures will minimize or eliminate adverse effects on EFH.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement with this determination was sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service for review. The FEIS has addressed their comments and questions regarding essential fish.

Record of Decision

Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972

Actions authorized in the Selected Alternative will not have a direct, indirect, or cumulative effect on marine mammals. Marine mammal viewing guidelines administered by the National Marine Fisheries Service and enforced by the Coast Guard are sufficient for their protection. NMFS administers the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), which prohibits the “take” of all marine mammal species in U.S. waters. “Take” is defined as “to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal.” Harassment is defined in the MMPA as “any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild; or has the potential to disturb a marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavior patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering.”

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (as amended)

The Selected Alternative will not have a significant direct, indirect, or cumulative effect on any bald eagle habitat. The FEIS notes that current standards and guidelines for these types of activities allowed by the Forest Plan, as developed with the cooperation of the USFWS, is sufficient for the protection of eagles. The Bald Eagle Protection Act, Administered by USFWS, makes it unlawful to import, export, take, sell, purchase, or barter any bald or golden eagle, their parts, products, nests, or eggs. “Take” includes pursuing, shooting, poisoning, wounding, killing, capturing, trapping, collecting, molesting, or disturbing the eagles.

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934 (16 USDF 66, et seq.)

This decision complies with the requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, which requires federal agencies to solicit comments from USFWS and ADF&G regarding the impacts on fish and wildlife resources and measures to mitigate these impacts. It requires that fish and wildlife resources receive equal consideration to other project features.

Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Section 810, Subsistence Evaluation

Subsistence Findings

None of the alternatives present a significant possibility of a significant restriction on subsistence use of deer, brown bear, furbearers, marine mammals, waterfowl, salmon, other finfish, shellfish, timber, and plants in the analysis area. No alternative will add cumulatively to effects on use of the subsistence resources. This finding is based on the potential effects by alternative on subsistence resource abundance and distribution, competition, access, and considering historical use of the project area, public comment and tribal consultations.

Abundance and Distribution

Guided recreation will not adversely affect abundance or distribution of deer, brown bear, furbearers, marine mammals, waterfowl, salmon, other finfish, shellfish, timber, and plants in the analysis area. No direct manipulation to wildlife or fish habitats are authorized in the Selected Alternative. As a result, the Forest Plan, BMPs and mitigation measures in place for conducting commercial operations on National Forest System lands are sufficient to protect existing habitats. Populations are protected by state and federal regulations.

None of the
alternatives will
restrict
subsistence uses.

Record of Decision

Competition

Subsistence use of deer, brown bear, furbearers, marine mammals, waterfowl, salmon, other finfish, shellfish, timber, and plants in the analysis area will not be restricted by competition from guided recreationists. Guided fishing or hunting are considered sport or general uses and will be regulated to provide a priority for subsistence users if any restrictions become necessary to protect the resource.

Access

Guided recreation use will not change or restrict access to deer, brown bear, furbearers, marine mammals, waterfowl, salmon, other finfish, shellfish, timber, and plants in the analysis area for subsistence users.

National Historic Preservation Act

Heritage resource surveys of various intensities were conducted in the project area, following protocols approved by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The Section 106 review for the proposed activities has been completed. The State Historic Preservation Officer was consulted, and the project complies with the provisions of 36 CFR Part 800.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, it was determined that no sites eligible to the National Register of Historic Places will be affected as a result of this decision. The primary mitigating factor is that no ground disturbance is allowed. Most of the sites are buried below the present ground surface and are not visible. Additionally, permit holders will be encouraged to use *Leave No Trace* principles that include provisions protecting fragile heritage resources. A detailed report of this determination was prepared (Bowers et al 2003) and submitted to the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). In a letter dated August 18, 2003, the SHPO concurred that sites eligible for the National Register “will not be adversely affected by the Shoreline Outfitter activities” (Bittner 2003).

This determination was also provided in a detailed letter to all the affected Indian Tribes. The letters summarized findings and offered to provide additional information or to meet face-to-face with the Indian Tribes to present more detailed information. Indian Tribes were asked to notify the Forest Service if they desired additional information or if they disagreed with the determinations. No response was received from any of the contacted Indian Tribes.

Outfitter/guide use is not expected to result in the discovery or disturbance of human remains. However, if human remains are discovered, they will fall under the inadvertent discovery provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

Outfitter/guide use will not restrict Alaska Native access to traditional religious or spiritual sites that are protected under the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA).

Recreation Special Use Authorizations for commercial services contain enforceable measures for protecting any undiscovered heritage resource that might be encountered during their activities in the field. I have determined, consistent with Forest Service direction on heritage resources, that no sites eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic places would be affected.

Record of Decision

Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (as amended)

Under the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972, activities conducted by the Forest Service that affect the coastal zone must be consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP). In addition, activities affecting the coastal zone that are conducted by non-federal parties under a Forest Service permit must also be consistent with the ACMP. The types of Forest Service permits that the State of Alaska and the Forest Service have agreed are likely to affect the coastal zone--and therefore require ACMP consistency review of the permit applicant's proposal--are listed in section 302 of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the State and the Forest Service on CZMA/ACMP consistency reviews. The types of special use permits analyzed in the FEIS and covered by this decision are not among those listed in the MOU as requiring ACMP review. In addition, the State has not requested review of these "unlisted" permit activities as provided under 15 CFR 930.54. Accordingly, no ACMP consistency review is required for these activities.

Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988

The Selected Alternative will not have a direct, indirect, or cumulative effect on any significant cave or karst resources in the project area. This analysis does not authorize commercial activities within caves. Increased recreation use may lead to the discovery of caves, at which time management plans would be developed if recreation use is determined to be appropriate. A separate analysis would be needed if an outfitter/guide should propose use of caves.

Other Disclosures

Effects on Prime Farm Land, Range Land, and Forest Land

No prime farm land or range land will be adversely affected by the action alternatives. Forest land will maintain its long-term productivity.

Effects on Civil Rights, Women, and Minorities

This analysis will not cause adverse impacts to civil rights, women, or minorities.

Executive Order 11593

Executive Order 11593 directs federal agencies to provide leadership in preserving, restoring, and maintaining the historical and cultural environment of the nation. The work accomplished for the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide analysis is in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act meets the intent of this Executive Order.

Executive Order 11988 Floodplains

Executive Order 11988 directs federal agencies to take action to avoid, to the extent possible, the long and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains. A floodplain is defined as the lowland and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters including flood prone areas of off shore islands, including at a minimum that area subject to a one percent or greater

Record of Decision

possibility of flooding in any given year. This analysis will not cause adverse impacts to floodplains or their management.

Executive Order 11990 Wetlands

Executive Order 11990 requires federal agencies to avoid, to the extent possible, the long-term and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands.

This project avoids affecting wetlands whenever practicable, but because wetlands are so extensive in the analysis area, it is not feasible to avoid all wetland areas. Impacts due to recreational use of wetlands are expected to be minimal.

Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898 directs federal agencies to identify and address the issue of environmental justice, which concerns adverse human health and environmental effects of agency programs that disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations.

Public meetings were available to all people in and near the project area and advertised through the local media, newspaper, TV scanner, local radio stations, and posted flyers at grocery stores and other businesses. See Chapter 1, Public Participation.

Implementation of the action alternatives will not cause adverse health, social, or environmental effects that disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations.

Executive Order 12962 Recreational Fisheries

Executive Order 12962 directs federal agencies to conserve, restore, and enhance aquatic systems to provide for increased recreational fishing opportunities nationwide. Section 1 of the Executive Order is most pertinent to the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide analysis area. Section 1 directs federal agencies to evaluate effects on aquatic ecosystems and recreational fisheries, develop and encourage partnerships, promote restoration, provide access, and promote awareness of opportunities for recreation fishery resources.

The effects of this project on freshwater and marine resources were evaluated during the analysis. With the application of Forest Plan standards and guidelines, including those for riparian areas, no significant adverse effects on freshwater or marine resources will occur.

Partnerships continue to be used to leverage federal project funds to address water quality, and fisheries enhancement concerns in areas of the Tongass National Forest, although none have been proposed for recreational fisheries in conjunction with this analysis.

Executive Order 13007 Indian Sacred Sites

Executive Order 13007 directs federal agencies to accommodate access to and ceremonial use of American Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and to avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites. Consultation with local federally recognized tribes (See NHPA listing of tribes consulted)

Record of Decision

occurred during this analysis. The proposed action will not limit access to or ceremonial use of sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and will not adversely impact the integrity of such sites.

Implementation of This Decision

Implementation of this decision may occur no sooner than 50 days from the date of publication of the notice of this decision in the *Juneau Empire*, the official newspaper of record for NEPA decisions signed by the Tongass Forest Supervisor.

This project will be implemented in accordance with Forest Service Manual and Handbook direction for Recreation Special Use Authorizations, contained in FSM 2700 and FSH 2709.11. This direction provides a bridge between project planning and implementation; will ensure execution of the actions, environmental standards, and mitigations approved by this decision; and will ensure compliance with applicable laws.

Implementation of all activities authorized by this ROD will be monitored to ensure that they are carried out as planned and described in the Final EIS, ROD, Use Area cards and Large Group Area cards, unless they are modified consistent with direction in FSM 1950 and FSH 1909.15.

Appendices B and C in the ROD contain the Use Area and Large Group Area cards. In the ROD Appendix A, Use Area cards identify geographic areas and are used as the basis for defining and managing commercial recreation use. The levels of commercial recreation use by season as approved in the Selected Alternative are provided for reference in the allocation of existing or new commercial recreation authorizations. These cards are an integral part of this decision because they identify resource concerns, management objectives, and specific mitigation measures to govern the management of recreation special use permits. Additional mitigation measures for the project area are presented in Appendix C of the FEIS.

The proposed action will not limit access to or ceremonial use of sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and will not adversely impact the integrity of such sites.

If changes are proposed to the actions authorized by this decision they will be subject to the requirements of NEPA, NFMA, Section 810 of ANILCA, CZMA, and other laws concerning such changes. In determining whether and what kind of NEPA action is required, I will consider the criteria for whether to supplement an existing EIS in 40 CFR 1502.9(c) and FSH 1909.15, section 18. In particular, I will consider whether the proposed change is a substantial change to the Selected Alternative as planned and already approved, and whether the change is relevant to environmental concerns. Connected or interrelated proposed changes regarding particular areas or specific activities will be considered together in making this determination. The cumulative impacts of these changes will also be considered.

Record of Decision

Right To Appeal

This decision is subject to administrative review (appeal) pursuant to 36 CFR part 215. A written notice of appeal must be filed with the Appeal Deciding Officer:

Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 021628
Juneau, AK 99802-1628

The Notice of Appeal must be filed within forty-five (45) days of publication of the notice of this decision in the *Juneau Empire*.

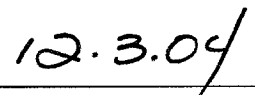
In accordance with 36 CFR part 215.14, it is the responsibility of those who appeal a decision to provide the Appeal Decision Officer sufficient evidence and rationale to show why the Responsible Official's decision should be remanded or reversed. The written notice of appeal filed must:

1. State that the document is a Notice of Appeal filed pursuant to 36 CFR part 215.
2. List the name, address, and telephone number of appellant.
3. Identify the decision document by title and subject, date of the decision, and name and title of the Responsible Official.
4. Identify the specific change(s) in the decision that the appellant seeks or portion of the decision to which the appellant objects.
5. State how the Responsible Official's decision fails to consider comments previously provided and, if applicable, how the appellant believes the decision violates law, regulation, or policy.

For additional information concerning this decision, contact Bill Tremblay, Recreation Planner, Tongass National Forest - Petersburg Office, Box 309, Petersburg, AK 99833, or call (907) 772-3841.



Forrest Cole
Forest Supervisor, Tongass National Forest



Date

Record of Decision



Organization of the Document

Volume I: Record of Decision and FEIS Executive Summary

- Record of Decision (ROD)**
- ROD Appendix A: Use Area Cards**
- ROD Appendix B: Large Group Area Cards**
- FEIS Executive Summary**

Volume II: FEIS (Chapters)

- Chapter 1: Purpose and Need**
- Chapter 2: Alternatives**
- Chapter 3: Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences**
- Chapter 4: Lists**

Volume III: FEIS (Appendices)

- Appendix A: Use Area Cards**
- Appendix B: Large Group Area Cards**
- Appendix C: Mitigation**
- Appendix D: Monitoring**
- Appendix E: Management Direction**
- Appendix F: Recreation Management Concepts**
- Appendix G: Response to Comments on the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide Draft EIS**

ROD Appendix A

Use Area Cards

ROD—Appendix A

Use Area Cards

Use Areas are geographic areas used in this analysis as the basis for defining and managing recreation use. Use Areas provide distinct geographical areas at a size that allows meaningful recreation management for specific areas of the national forest.

The following Use Area cards are used to provide site-specific information and resource considerations relating to commercial recreation management for each Use Area. They are supported by the information provided in Chapters 2 and 3. The seasonal allocations and specific measures are displayed for the Selected Alternative. Most resource concerns are mitigated through measures listed in Appendix C in the FEIS, which apply to guided recreation use across the entire analysis area. Resource concerns specific to each Use Area are listed on the Use Area Card and in Appendix C. Figure A-1 displays the general location of the Use Areas. The total recreation carrying capacity for each Use Area has been modified to reflect the changes in the seasons as identified in the Selected Alternative (ROD, page5).

The information on these cards will be used to prepare and administer outfitter/guide permits. The mitigation measures will be incorporated into the document as permit stipulations where applicable. The permit conditions will be enforced through permit administration.

Table ROD A-1. List of Use Areas

Use Area	General Location	Use Area	General Location
01-01	Skagway Area	04-04C	Baranof Warm Springs
01-02	Haines Area	04-05	SW Admiralty
01-03	East Chilkats	04-06A	Pybus Bay
01-04A	Berners Bay	04-06B	Eliza Harbor
01-04B	N. Juneau Coast	04-07	Gambier Bay
01-04C	Taku Inlet	04-08	NE Admiralty
01-04D	Slocum Inlet	04-09	Seymour Canal
01-05A	Taku Harbor	04-10A	Greens Creek
01-05B	Port Snettisham	04-10B	NW Admiralty
01-05C	Windham Bay	04-11	Hoonah Area
01-05D	Tracy Arm	04-12	Tenakee Inlet
01-05E	Fords Terror	04-13	Peril Strait
04-01A	Gut Bay, Baranof	04-14	Slocum Arm
04-01B	Port Armstrong	04-15	West Chichagof
04-02A	Redoubt Lake	04-16A	Point Adolphus
04-02B	Whale Bay	04-16B	Mud Bay
04-03	Sitka Area	04-16C	Idaho Inlet
04-04A	Lake Eva, Rodman Bay	04-16D	Port Althorp
04-04B	Kelp Bay		

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
Analysis Area.



Figure A-1

Use Area 01-01

Skagway Area – Juneau Ranger District

Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
10	370	1,060	260
Description This use area extends from the Skagway area south to, but does not include, Sullivan Island within eastern Lynn Canal. The area is characterized by steep, rocky and often inaccessible shoreline. A notable exception is the Katzeihin River area, which is the focus of both commercial and non-commercial activity. The upper 10 miles of the 12-mile Katzeihin River has been recommended for Wild River status.			
LUDs	Modified Landscape, Remote Recreation, Semi-Remote Recreation, Wild River, and Transportation and Utility System		
ROS	Primitive, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized		
National Forest Shoreline Miles	83 miles		
National Forest Shoreline Acres	19,583 acres		
Communities	Skagway, pop. 825; Haines, pop. 1,811		
Alaska Coastal Management Act	Skagway Coastal Management Program Haines Coastal Management Program		
Forest Service Facilities			
Public Recreation Cabins	Katzeihin (limited access and not within the rental system)		
Non-National Forest System Lands			
Otter Creek Hydroelectric			
Recreation Use			
Area Attractions	Scenic views and hunting, and fishing		
Commercial Use	By far, the highest use in the area is as a pass-through for over 700,000 cruise ship passengers arriving in Skagway. Other uses include guided big game hunting and fishing. This area is a primary flight path for flightseeing and local commuter aircraft. Airboats are used in the Katzeihin River area to travel inland from Lynn Canal.		
Non-commercial Use	Fly in visits to Katzeihin cabin, hunting, fishing, sightseeing, and Alaska Marine Highway		
Use Patterns	Commercial fishing, Alaska Marine Highway route, boat-based outfitter guide activity and recreational boaters		
Primary Use Areas	Taiya Inlet, Lynn Canal, Katzeihin River, wheeled aircraft land on an unmaintained airstrip near Katzeihin River and there is airboat use within the Katzeihin River drainage.		
Areas of Concern	Beginning two miles inland from mean high tide along Lynn Canal, the Katzeihin River is a recommended Wild River.		

Use Area 01-01

Skagway Area – Juneau Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

NMFS has identified two Steller sea lion haul outs in this use area. Twenty-nine mapped bald eagle nests also occur in this use area.

Fisheries

The terrain in this area drops steeply into Lynn Canal offering little habitat for fish spawning or rearing. Five Class I streams have been mapped in the area. No streams were identified as having high fishing values.

Botany

Four surveys were completed along the shoreline covering 0.25 miles. One survey in a saline meadow near the mouth of the Katzechin River identified *Eleocharis kamschatica*.

Cultural/Heritage

Five surveys have been completed covering 2.25 miles. Five historic sites were identified.

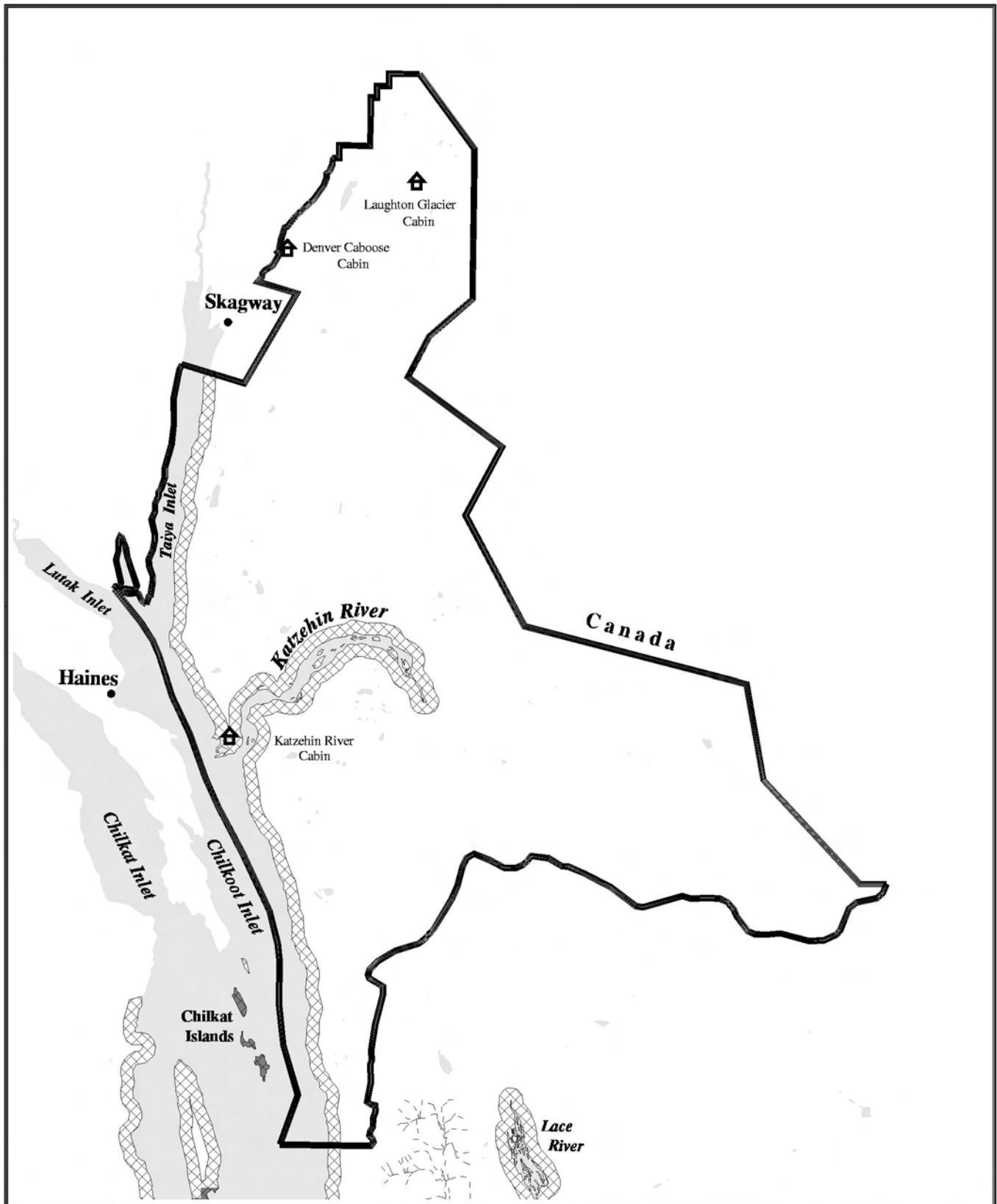
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	50	150	25
<i>Enclaves</i>	Katzechin Falls		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Skagway Area Use Area - 01-01



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin

10.50 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 01-02

Haines Area – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
5	185	530	130
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area includes the western shoreline of Lynn Canal from Taiya Point near Skagway, to Haines, and south to Sullivan Island. Only a small portion of the mainland near Sullivan Island is within the Juneau Ranger District. There are few sheltered anchorages along this stretch of shoreline and weather conditions frequently cause rough seas in this portion of Lynn Canal, which limits use.</p> <p>LUDs Modified Landscape, Semi-Remote Recreation, and Transportation and Utility System.</p> <p>ROS Semi-Primitive Motorized and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized.</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 10 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 2,372 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Haines Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Most of the shoreline in this area falls within the Haines State Forest and Resource Management Area, Chilkat State Park, and the Sullivan Island State Marine Park. There are also private inholdings within this use area.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Scenic, hunting and fishing</p> <p>Commercial Use Very low</p> <p>Non-commercial Use This area is primarily used by Haines and Skagway residents and some Juneau residents</p> <p>Use Patterns Some localized use on Sullivan Island</p>			

Use Area 01-02

Haines Area – Juneau Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

In this use area, there are 13 mapped bald eagle nests

Fisheries

Three Class I streams have been mapped in this area. No streams were identified with high fishing values.

Botany

There are no known sensitive plants within this use area. This area has not received intensive surveys.

Cultural/Heritage

There are no known cultural sites within this use area. Two surveys have been completed covering two miles.

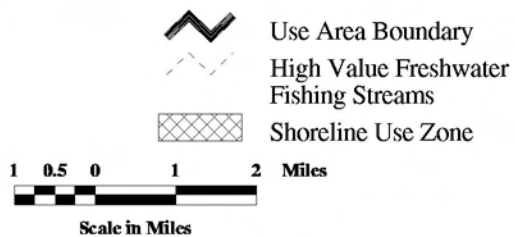
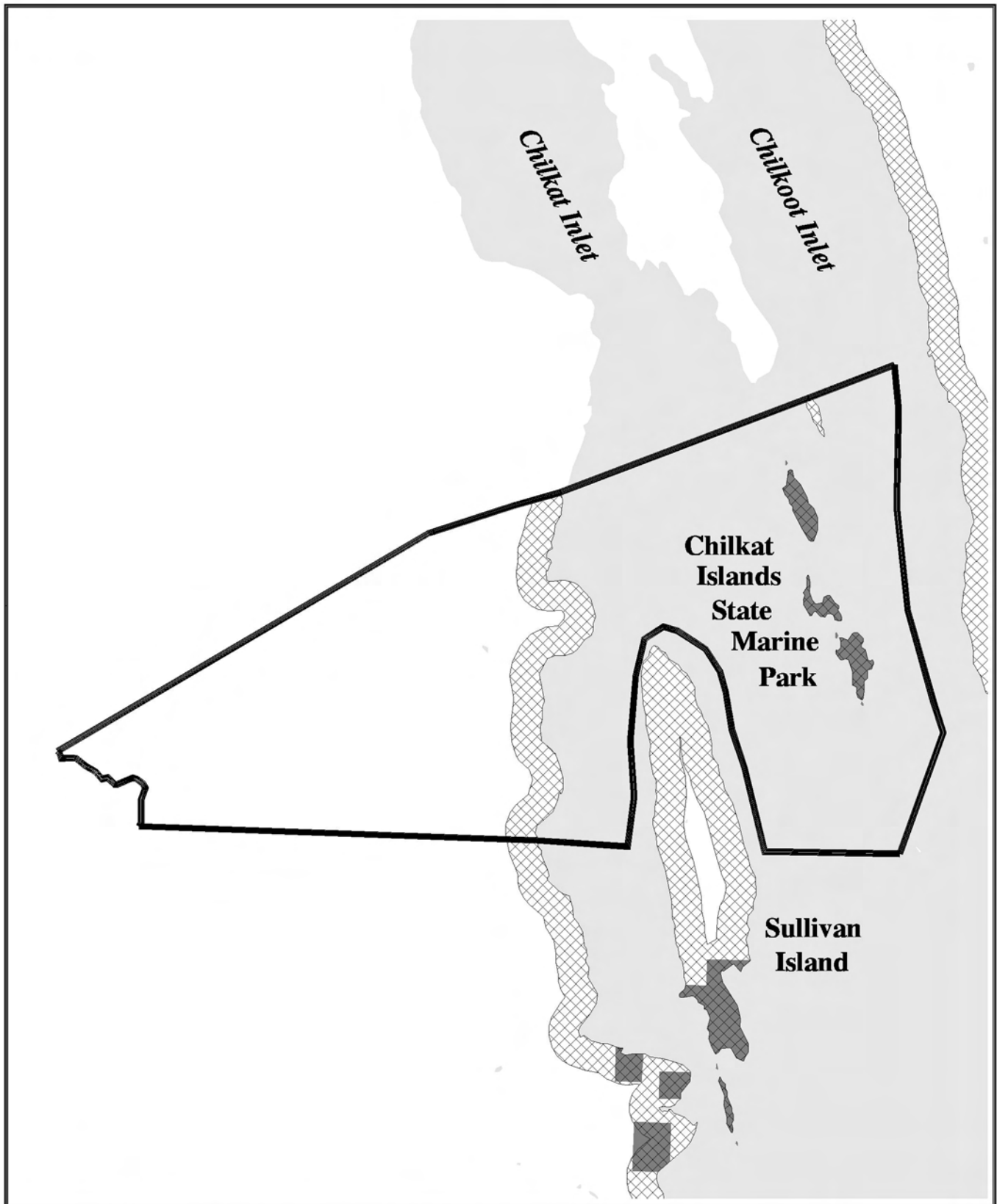
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	30	50	25
<i>Enclaves</i>	Sullivan Mountain		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Haines Area
Use Area - 01-02



Use Area 01-03

East Chilkats – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
20	740	2120	520
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area is adjacent to Glacier Bay National Park to the west and includes the western shoreline of Lynn Canal from Sullivan Island Marine Park to Point Couverden and the shoreline on the east side of Excursion Inlet. The Homeshore area has had previous logging, and a road system exists in this area.</p> <p>LUDs Modified Landscape, Old-Growth, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, and Transportation and Utility System</p> <p>ROS Roaded Modified, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 102 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 29,324 acres</p> <p>Communities In Excursion Inlet, there is a small community and cannery at Ward Cove, and the Excursion Inlet Seaplane Base.</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act The northern boundary abuts the Haines Coastal Management Zone boundary.</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>A logging road system on Point Couverden, storage units, and trailer pads associated with timber sale planning are located within this use area. There is an existing log transfer facility site at Homeshore.</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Private and state lands are located at Sullivan Island, William Henry Bay, St. James Bay, and in Excursion Inlet. The State of Alaska administers St. James Bay State Park, a marine park at Pt. Couverden, and maintains a floating dock offshore at Pt. Couverden.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Scenic views, wildlife viewing, some hunting and fishing</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown and black bear hunting, moose hunting, freshwater fishing, sightseeing, and bicycle tours</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Non-commercial use is generally offshore sport fishing, deer, moose and black bear hunting.</p> <p>Use Patterns Shoreline use in this area is primarily by residents of Haines, Juneau, Skagway, Hoonah, Gustavus, and Excursion Inlet.</p>			

Use Area 01-03

East Chilkats – Juneau Ranger District

Primary Use Areas

Excursion Inlet, Howard Bay, the log transfer site at Homeshore, William Henry Bay, Square Bay, and Boat Harbor. Fixed wing aircraft land at the mouth of the Endicott River to access the area. The area inside the tree line has many trails and old logging roads. There is an unmaintained airstrip, which gets moderate use just inside the tree line at Endicott River.

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

In this use area, 345 bald eagle nests have been mapped.

Fisheries

This area contains productive fish streams important to the commercial fishing industry, non-guided sport fish users, and the guided sport fishing industry. Guided sport fishing use is focused on early season Dolly Varden char and mid-season pink salmon fishing opportunities. Twenty-six Class I streams have been mapped in this area, of which seven streams in this area have been identified with high fishing values. Most of these streams support populations of chum, pink, and coho salmon, as well as Dolly Varden char and cutthroat trout. A small stream in the area supports a small run of sockeye salmon that are an important subsistence resource for residents of Hoonah. Small runs of steelhead are found in some systems. A stream on the west side of Excursion Inlet is productive for its size and contains both summer and fall runs of chum salmon.

Botany

Two different *Botrychium* species in addition to *Zigadenus elegans* and *Platanthera obtusata* were recorded during nine surveys. These species all occurred within the beach meadow or upper estuary meadow vegetation community types. Beach meadows, especially at Howard Bay and Endicott River, are an attraction.

Cultural/Heritage

Two historic and 11 prehistoric sites were identified in 9 surveys covering 14.5 miles.

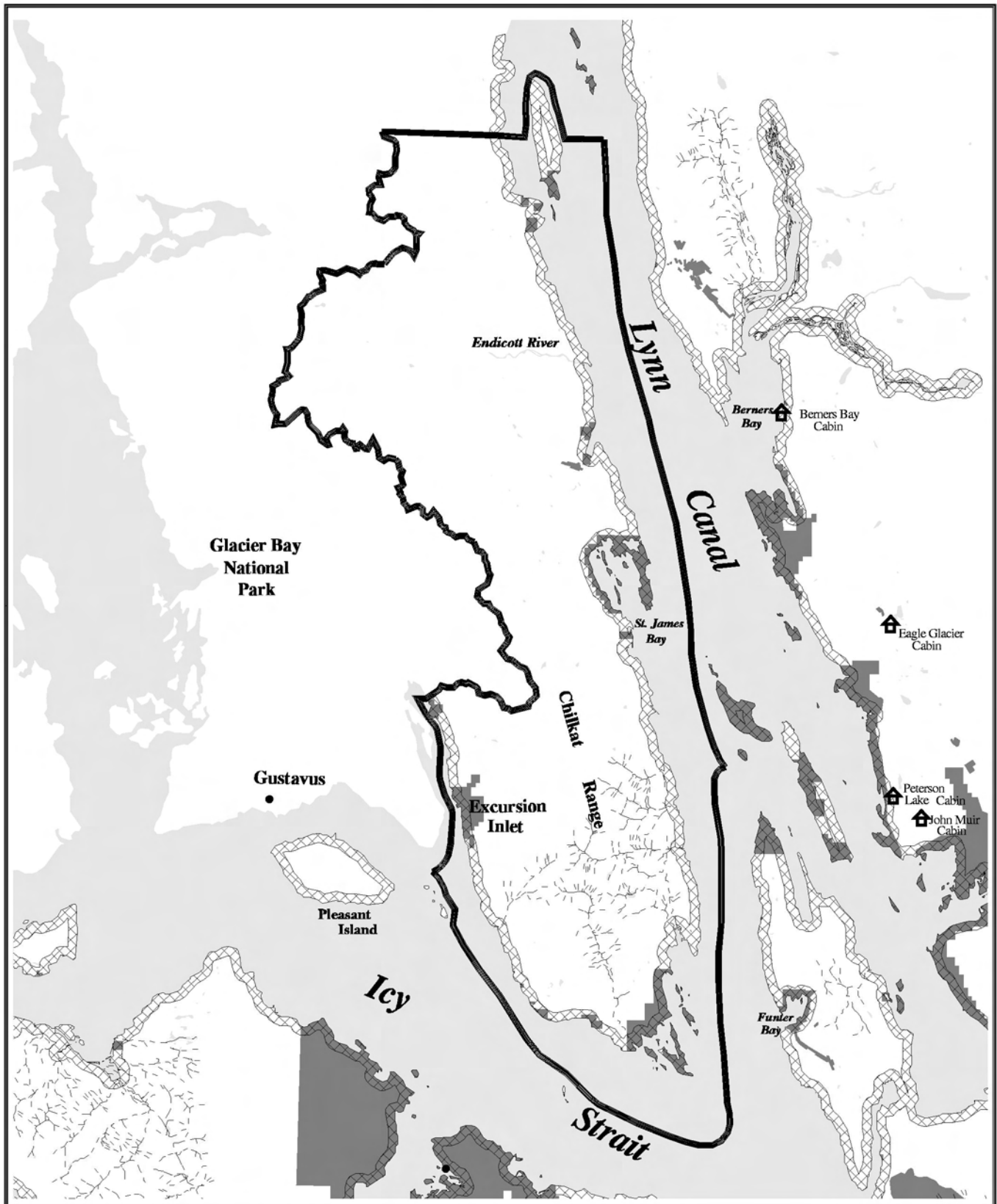
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
	Spr	Sum	Fall
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	50	150	50
Enclaves	Howard Bay		
15% Areas	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

East Chilkats Use Area - 01-03



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin



0.5 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles

Use Area 01-04A

Berners Bay – Juneau Ranger District

Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)

Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
10	370	1,060	260

Description

This use area includes the shoreline from approximately 16 miles north of Berners Bay east of Sullivan Island, to Echo Cove. Berners Bay itself is rich in wildlife, including sea lions, porpoises, sea birds and whales. The Juneau road system ends at Echo Cove, where a small harbor is located. This area has been proposed for a transportation corridor between Juneau and Skagway.

LUDs	LUD II, Modified Landscape, Old Growth, Remote Recreation, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, Wild River, and Transportation and Utility System
ROS	Primitive, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
National Forest Shoreline Miles	260 miles
National Forest Shoreline Acres	35,288 acres
Communities	A portion of the City and Borough of Juneau is within this use area. A small community exists at Kensington mine, and at Echo Cove on private land.

Forest Service Facilities

Public Recreation Cabins	Berners Bay
---------------------------------	-------------

Non-National Forest System Lands

The Kensington mine, a major silver producer, is located just above Pt. Sherman. A smaller private mine, the Jualin, is on the north side of Berners Bay, and a private church camp exists on an old homestead located at Echo Cove. The state maintains a small harbor at Echo Cove, which is the end of the Juneau road system. Goldbelt, a Native corporation that owns timberland, has considered developing a ferry terminal and other facilities in this location. There is a state park at Point Bridget, and private residences along the shoreline.

Recreation Use

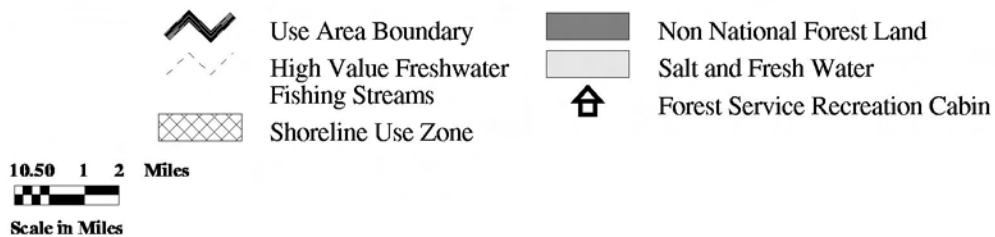
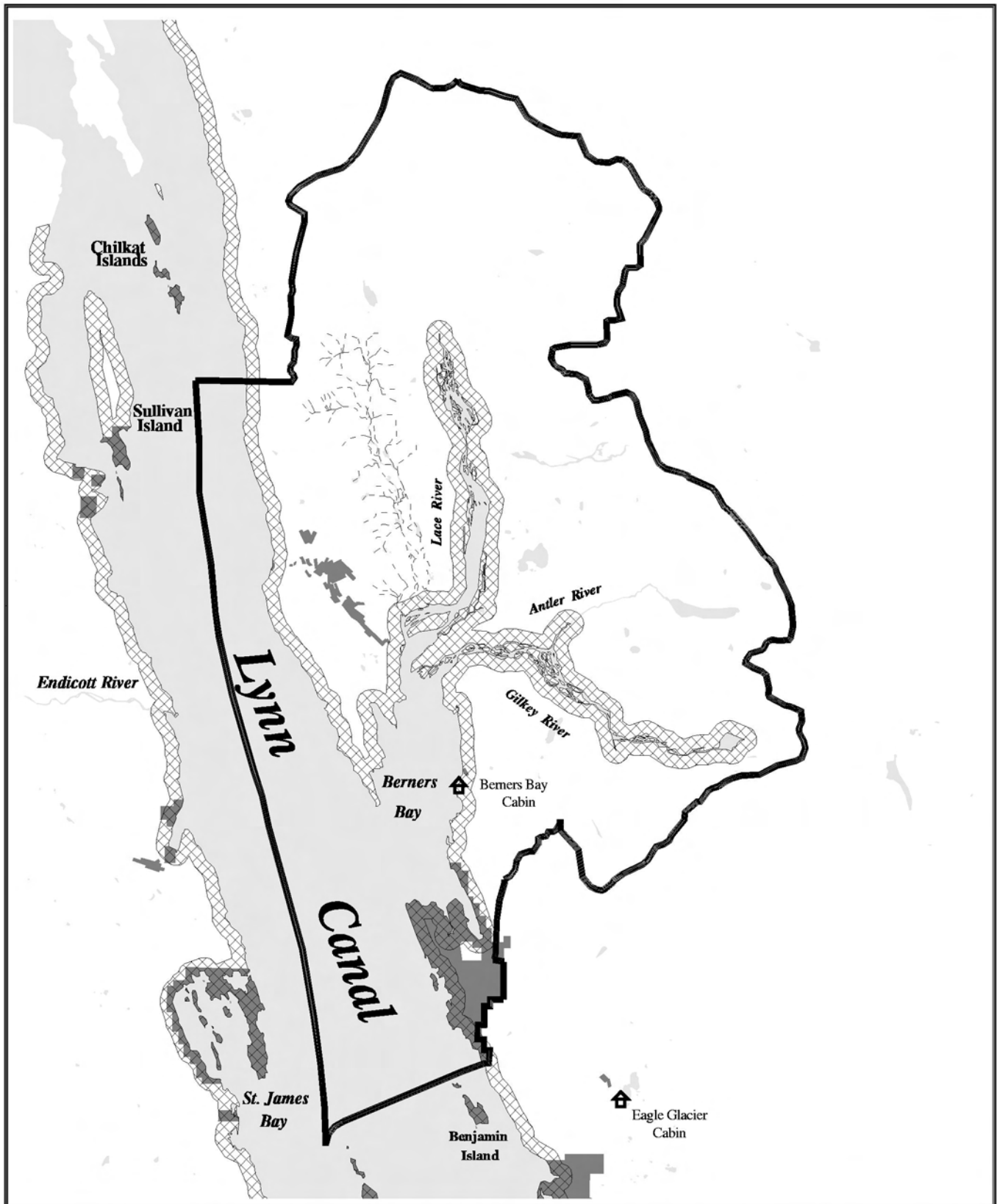
Area Attractions	Scenic views, kayaking, fishing, hunting, sightseeing and nature watching
Commercial Use	Commercial kayak tours and floatplane tours operate in the area, especially in the vicinity of the mouth of the Antler River in addition to wildlife watching tours.
Non-commercial Use	Berners Bay receives substantial boat-based use from Juneau residents, and the area is a popular kayak destination. Shoreline areas north of Berners Bay do not attract the activity found within the bay.
Use Patterns	Use in this area is varied and high including, commercial gillnetting, commercial sport fishing, flightseeing tours, land-based tours, and subsistence use. Berners Bay has cultural significance for Native groups in the area. Cruise ships and the Alaska Marine Highway system travel close to shore outside the bay. Airboats are used to access inner bay areas.

Use Area 01-04A

Berners Bay – Juneau Ranger District

Primary Use Areas	Berners Bay is the primary focus of activity.																			
Areas of Concern	Potential development on private land at Cascade Point. The Gilkey River is a recommended Wild River.																			
<u>Management/Resource Considerations</u>																				
Subsistence	There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.																			
Wildlife	NMFS has identified one Steller sea lion haul-out; 129 bald eagle nests have been mapped in this use area.																			
Fisheries	Watersheds in this use area are large producers of coho, pink and chum salmon. Sixteen Class I streams have been mapped in the area, two with high fishing values. The Berners River, a tributary to Berners Bay, is used by ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Division as a coho salmon index stream. Local sport fishers use the tributaries of Berners Bay, primarily Berners River. Because of the shallow nature of the inner bay, most of this use takes place via airboats and jet boats, which keeps fishing use low.																			
Botany	No rare or sensitive plants have been detected from three surveys.																			
Cultural/Heritage	Six prehistoric and three historic sites have been identified from 11 surveys covering 28.5 miles.																			
<u>Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative</u>																				
	<table><tr><td></td><td colspan="3">Modified Alt. 4</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</td><td>Spr</td><td>Sum</td><td>Fall</td></tr><tr><td>40</td><td>75</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>Enclaves</td><td colspan="3">None</td></tr><tr><td>15% Areas</td><td colspan="3">None</td></tr></table>		Modified Alt. 4			Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall	40	75	25	Enclaves	None			15% Areas	None		
	Modified Alt. 4																			
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall																	
	40	75	25																	
Enclaves	None																			
15% Areas	None																			
<u>Mitigation</u>																				
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.																				
Guided use on Cowee Creek and Sawmill Creek will not be allowed on weekends or on state or federal holidays to reduce the potential for conflicts with unguided users. Guided use must not displace unguided users.																				

Berners Bay Use Area - 01-04A



Use Area 01-04B

North Juneau Coast – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	222	636	156
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area extends from Point Bridget State Park along the Juneau Road System and the shoreline from south of Pt. Bridget State Park to Point Salisbury, including Douglas, Shelter, Lincoln, and Benjamin Islands. Continuing south from Point Bridget State Park along the Juneau road system, the use area extends to just south of Thane to Point Salisbury.</p> <p>LUDs Old Growth, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, and Transportation and Utility System</p> <p>ROS Rural, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 30 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 11,185 acres</p> <p>Communities Population of the combined Juneau–Douglas community is more than 30,000 people.</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Juneau District Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Numerous trails and developed recreation associated with the road system are excluded from this analysis.</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Land ownership along much of the shoreline, mainland, and on the islands is other than national forest. Shelter Island has private residences, and a state marine park. Lincoln Island is in private ownership. Benjamin Island is not in the National Forest System. Recreation residences occur on the west side of Douglas Island near Pt. Hilda.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u>			
Area Attractions	Proximity to Juneau		
Commercial Use	This area has low commercial use in terms of special use authorizations, though the marine areas adjacent to land receive heavy commercial use.		
Non-commercial Use	Private vessels actively utilize Stephens Passage on the west side of Douglas Island. Other non-commercial activities in this area include beachcombing, wildlife watching, fishing, picnicking, camping, hiking, kayaking, and other water and shore-based activities.		
Use Patterns	Activity is concentrated primarily along the Juneau road system; harbors at Auke Bay, Harris, Aurora, and Douglas Harbors; and North Douglas Boat Launch. The area is on a primary flight path for the Juneau International Airport and for flightseeing tours.		
Primary Use Areas	Concentrated use occurs on most beach access points along the Juneau road system and east to the north Douglas shoreline. Areas of primary concentration on national forest would be Eagle Beach, Auk Recreation site, the Dupont Trail, and the west side of Douglas Island.		

Use Area 01-04B

North Juneau Coast – Juneau Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

NMFS has identified one Steller sea lion haul-out. In this use area, 319 bald eagle nests have been mapped.

Fisheries

Two Class I streams have been mapped in this area and are not associated with high fishing values. The majority of streams within the use area occur on land owned by the City of Juneau. These streams are important to local residents and contain stocks of chum, pink, and coho salmon, Dolly Varden char and cutthroat trout. Small populations of steelhead are produced in a few of these systems. Some of the streams in the Gastineau Channel area receive hatchery-enhanced runs of coho, chum, and king salmon. Because of their easy access by Juneau sport fishers, most receive some degree of sport fishing use. Salt-water surrounding this area receives heavy guided fishing use.

Botany

Individuals of the genus *Botrychium* were documented within an upper estuarine meadow. Six surveys were conducted in the area.

Cultural/Heritage

Eight historic and five prehistoric sites have been identified within this use area from three surveys covering 4.25 miles.

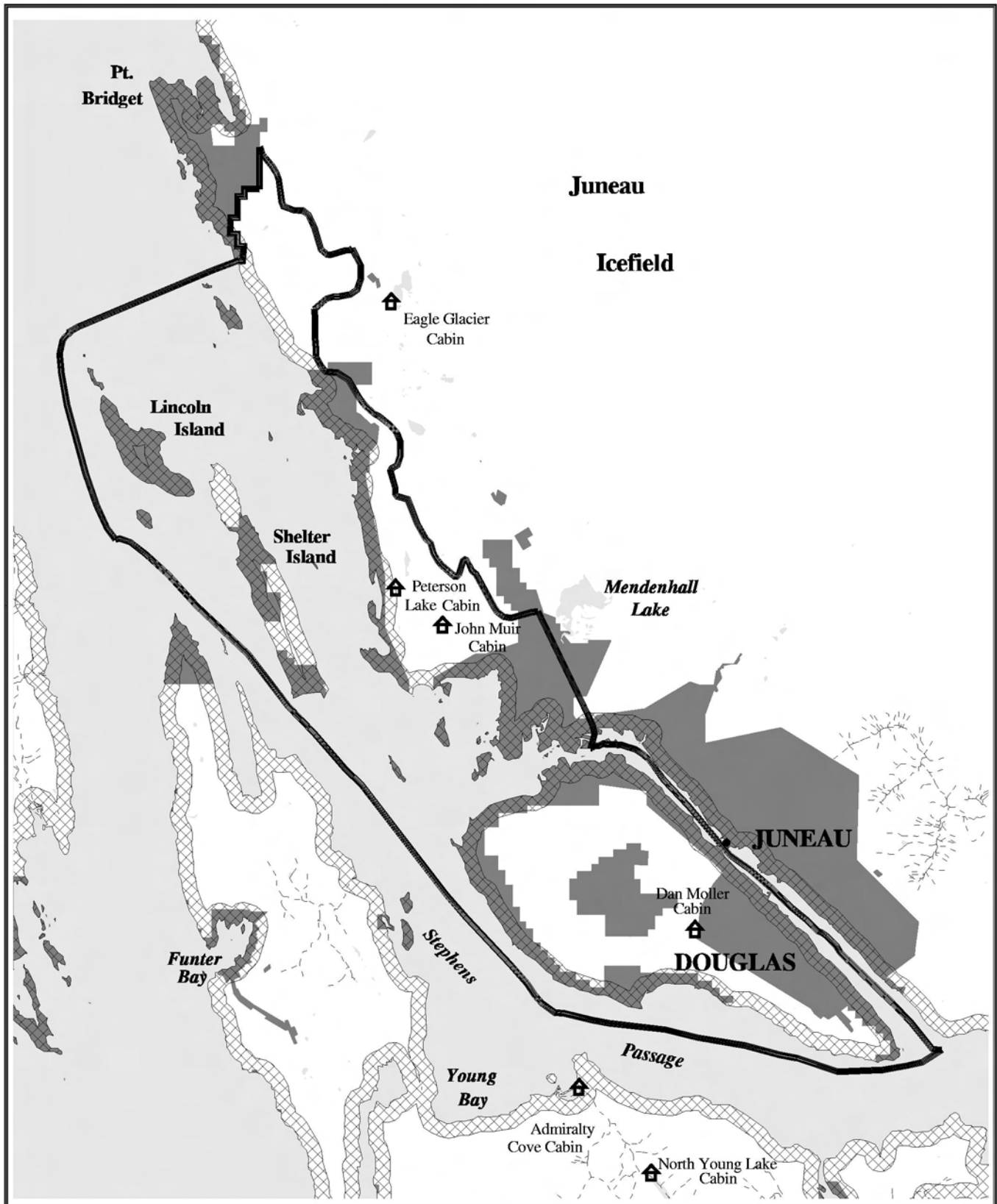
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	30	75	25
Enclaves	None		
15% Areas	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

North Juneau Coast Use Area - 01-04B



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

10.50 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR



Use Area 01-04C

Taku Inlet – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
12	444	1,272	312
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area includes Pt. Bishop, the Taku River to the Canadian border and south of Taku Inlet to north of Slocum Inlet on the east side of Stephens Passage. The Taku River is a heavily used flight-seeing corridor, and receives significant fishing and pleasure craft use as well. The Taku River is of cultural significance. The river has tidal influences for miles upriver, which limit navigation, and is subject to annual outburst flooding from glacier dams upstream.</p> <p>LUDs Old Growth, Remote Recreation, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, and Transportation and Utility System</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 163 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 35,377 acres</p> <p>Communities A small enclave of homes near the Canadian border</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Juneau District Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Taku Glacier Cabin</p> <p>Trails Pt. Bishop</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Annex Creek power plant and penstock are situated on the north Taku Inlet shoreline about 3 ½ miles upriver from Stephens Passage. On the south shore about 6 miles upriver, Taku Lodge operates primarily during the summer. Additionally, there is an area of homes and property near the Canadian border. Private recreation cabins are located near Twin Glacier Lake, Yehring Creek, and other locations within Taku inlet. Lake Dorothy Hydro Project is being planned for near the river mouth.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Scenic views and glaciers</p> <p>Commercial Use Guided sport fishing and hunting, commercial fishing, occasional kayak touring</p> <p>Non-commercial Use These activities include fishing, day boating, hiking, and hunting for goat, moose and bear. Most activities on Forest Service lands outside of flightseeing are water-based.</p>			

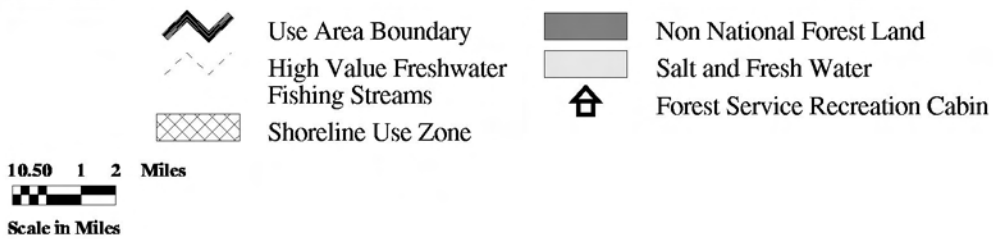
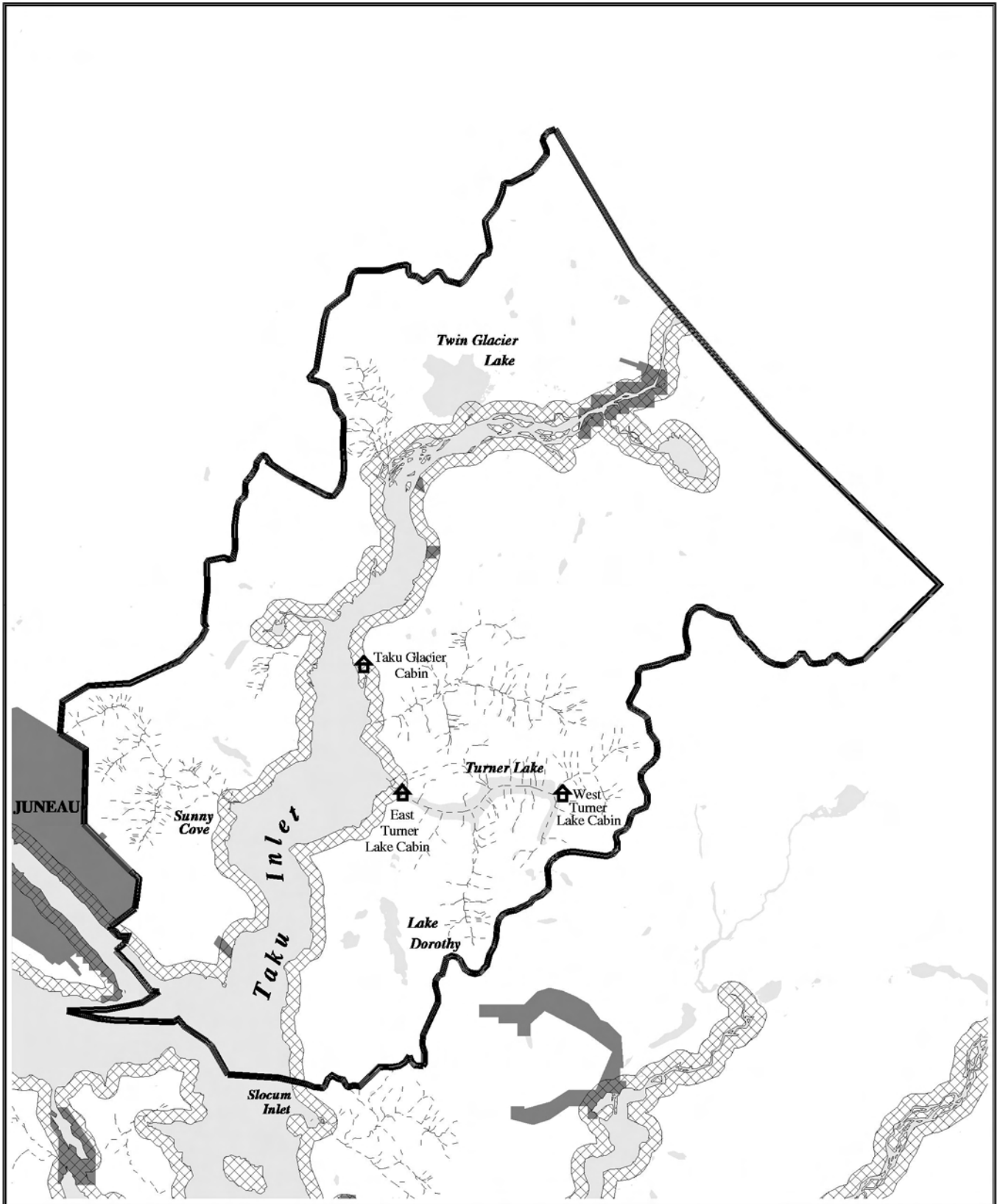
Use Area 01-04C

Taku Inlet – Juneau Ranger District

Use Patterns	This area includes a heavily used flightseeing route (up to 30,000 passengers during the summer season) to the Taku and Norris Glaciers. There is also a high volume of floatplane traffic to sightsee and to access the Taku Lodge.																			
Primary Use Areas	Though the waterway receives considerable use, few shoreline activities occur downriver due to inaccessible shoreline and the vagaries of river bars.																			
<u>Management/Resource Considerations</u>																				
Subsistence	An annual average of 121 personal use-fishing permits have been returned for use on the Taku River. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users due to this project.																			
Wildlife	NMFS has identified one Steller sea lion haul-out in this area. Thirty-three bald eagle nests have been mapped in this area but it is assumed that nests are located along the shoreline in numbers at least equal to surveyed areas to the west.																			
Fisheries	Thirty-four Class I streams have been mapped in this area and 5 were identified with high fishing values. Though outside the analysis area, the Taku River system is a large transboundary river that supports stocks of all five pacific salmon species, Dolly Varden char, and cutthroat trout. The system is important to Alaskan and Canadian commercial, sport, and subsistence fisheries. Juneau residents use the lower Taku River and its tributaries for recreational sport fishing.																			
Botany	No rare or sensitive plants were identified from seven surveys that covered approximately one mile of shoreline.																			
Cultural/Heritage	Five surveys covering 1.25 miles revealed four historic sites.																			
<u>Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative</u>																				
	<table><tr><td></td><td colspan="3">Modified Alt. 4</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</td><td>Spr</td><td>Sum</td><td>Fall</td></tr><tr><td>40</td><td>150</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>Enclaves</td><td colspan="3">Sunny Cove</td></tr><tr><td>15% Areas</td><td colspan="3">None</td></tr></table>		Modified Alt. 4			Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall	40	150	25	Enclaves	Sunny Cove			15% Areas	None		
	Modified Alt. 4																			
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall																	
	40	150	25																	
Enclaves	Sunny Cove																			
15% Areas	None																			
<u>Mitigation</u>																				
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.																				
Outfitter/guide use will not be allowed on Turner Creek on weekends or during state and federal holidays to reduce the potential conflicts with unguided users.																				

Taku Inlet

Use Area - 01-04C



Use Area 01-04D

Slocum Inlet – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
10	370	1,060	260
<u>Description</u> <p>Includes Slocum Inlet and the surrounding area. Its proximity to Juneau and shelter it provides from Taku winds make it an easily accessible and a popular destination.</p> <p>LUDs Old Growth, Scenic Viewshed, Timber Production, and Transportation and Utility System</p> <p>ROS Roaded Modified, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 5 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 1,459 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Juneau District Coastal Management Program</p> <p><u>Forest Service Facilities</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Recreation Use</u></p> <p>Area Attractions Hunting, fishing, and crabbing</p> <p>Commercial Use Although Slocum Inlet is somewhat shallow, it does receive commercial fishing use. Crabpot storage is authorized inside the inlet in support of the commercial Dungeness crab harvest. Commercial outfitter guided freshwater fishing occurs at the head of the inlet.</p> <p>Non-commercial Use This area is attractive for saltwater personal fishery and sport fishing, clamming, Dungeness and king crabbing. It is also a popular hunting area. In the past, it has been proposed as a possible area for transplanting Juneau's 'garbage bears'.</p> <p>Use Patterns Although small, Slocum Inlet receives intense local use from commercial fishing and crabbing as well as from recreational users. There is a power transmission line that transects this area.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Head of Slocum Inlet</p>			

Use Area 01-04D

Slocum Inlet – Juneau Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.

Wildlife

NMFS has identified one Steller sea lion haul-out in the use area. There are 3 mapped bald eagle nests in this use area.

Fisheries

Three Class I streams have been mapped in this area, one of which is identified as a high value fishing stream. It is located at the head of the bay, with a large inter-tidal grass flat, and supports abundant runs of pink and chum salmon. This stream receives little non-guided sport fishing pressure. Because of its relatively close proximity to Juneau, few potential conflicts with non-guided fishers, and consistent runs of pink and chum salmon, this stream receives relatively high use from guided sport fishers.

Botany

There are no known sensitive plants in this use area. This area has not received intensive surveys.

Cultural/Heritage

No sites were identified during one survey that covered 4.75 miles.

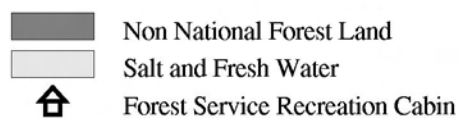
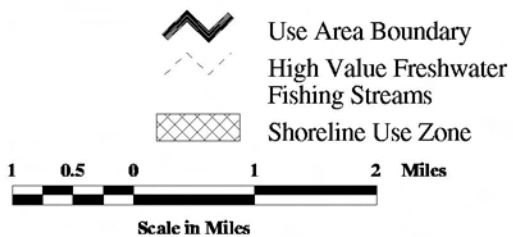
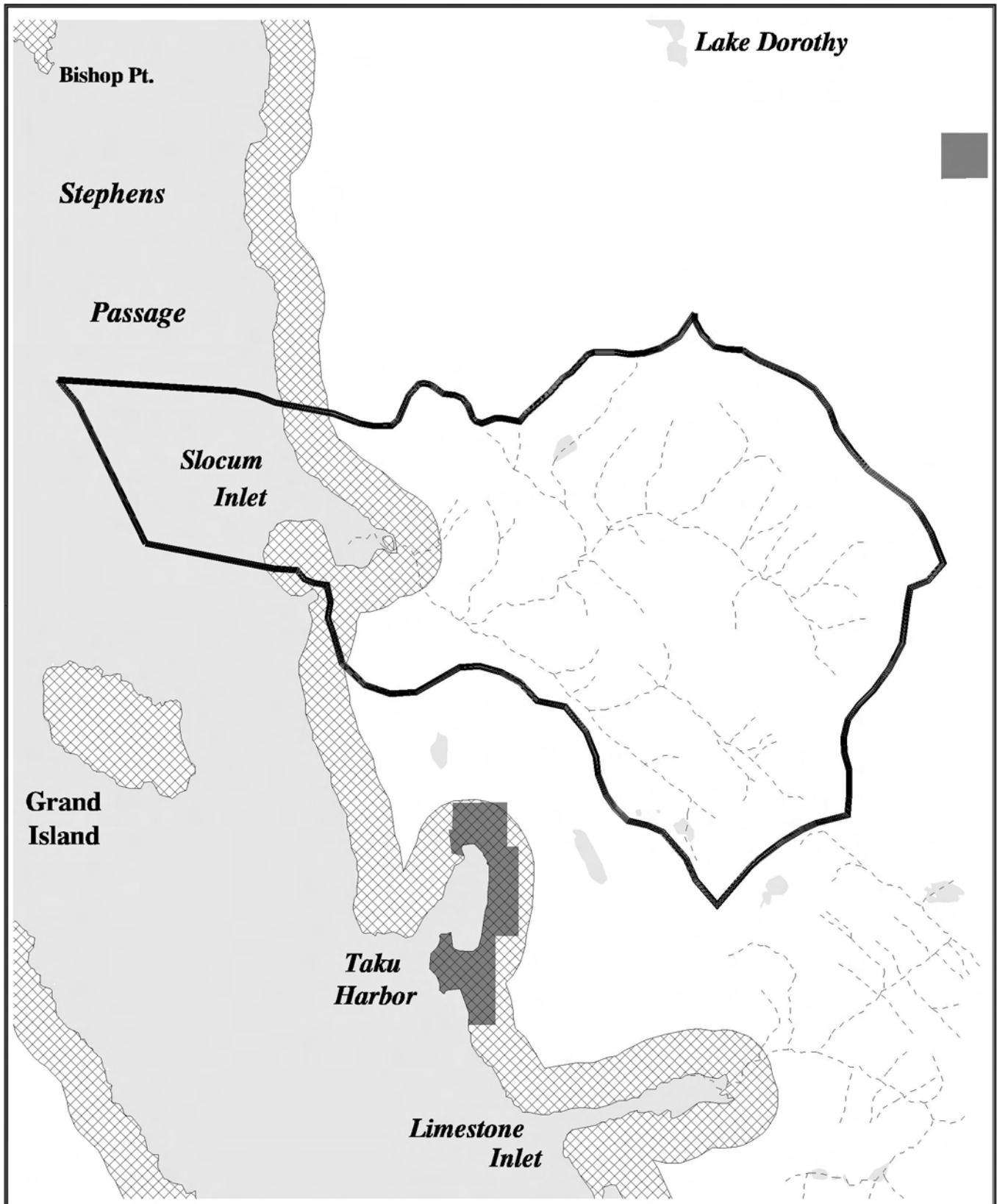
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
	Spr	Sum	Fall
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	40	75	25
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Slocum Inlet
Use Area - 01-04D



Use Area 01-05A

Taku Harbor – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	222	636	156
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area extends from Circle Point to the mouth of Port Snettisham along the eastern shoreline of Stephens Passage. Taku Harbor is the largest protected anchorage between Juneau and Port Snettisham.</p> <p>LUDs Old Growth, Research Natural Area, Scenic Viewshed, and Transportation and Utility System</p> <p>ROS Primitive and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, and Roaded Natural</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 20 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 5,340 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Juneau District Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Uplands in Taku Harbor were state-selected for community recreation. A state marine park and two private parcels are located along the shoreline. The state maintains a public dock within Taku Harbor.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Community anchorage, kayaking, and wildlife viewing</p> <p>Commercial Use Guided freshwater fishing at the head of the bay, commercial gill netting, and crab pot storage</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Uses include saltwater sport fishing, nature watching, hiking, personal clam harvest, and crabbing. Suicide Cove is used as a destination and haul out for kayakers. Slocum Inlet is also used by kayakers as a rest stop on the way north across Taku Inlet.</p> <p>Use Patterns Proximity to Juneau makes Limestone Inlet and Taku Harbor both easily accessible and popular destinations. The area receives heavy boat traffic, including cruise ships and barges.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Limestone Inlet and Taku Harbor</p>			

Use Area 01-05A

Taku Harbor – Juneau Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

There are 20 mapped bald eagle nests in the use area.

Fisheries

Two Class I streams have been mapped in this area. There is a very small stream that enters Taku Harbor, which likely does not support significant runs of anadromous fish. Limestone Inlet has a high value fishing stream flowing through an inter-tidal grass flat that supports large runs of pink and chum salmon and likely receives little non-guided sport fishing pressure.

Botany

There are no known sensitive plants in this use area. This area has not received intensive surveys.

Cultural/Heritage

Two surveys covering 0.5 miles were conducted with one prehistoric site identified.

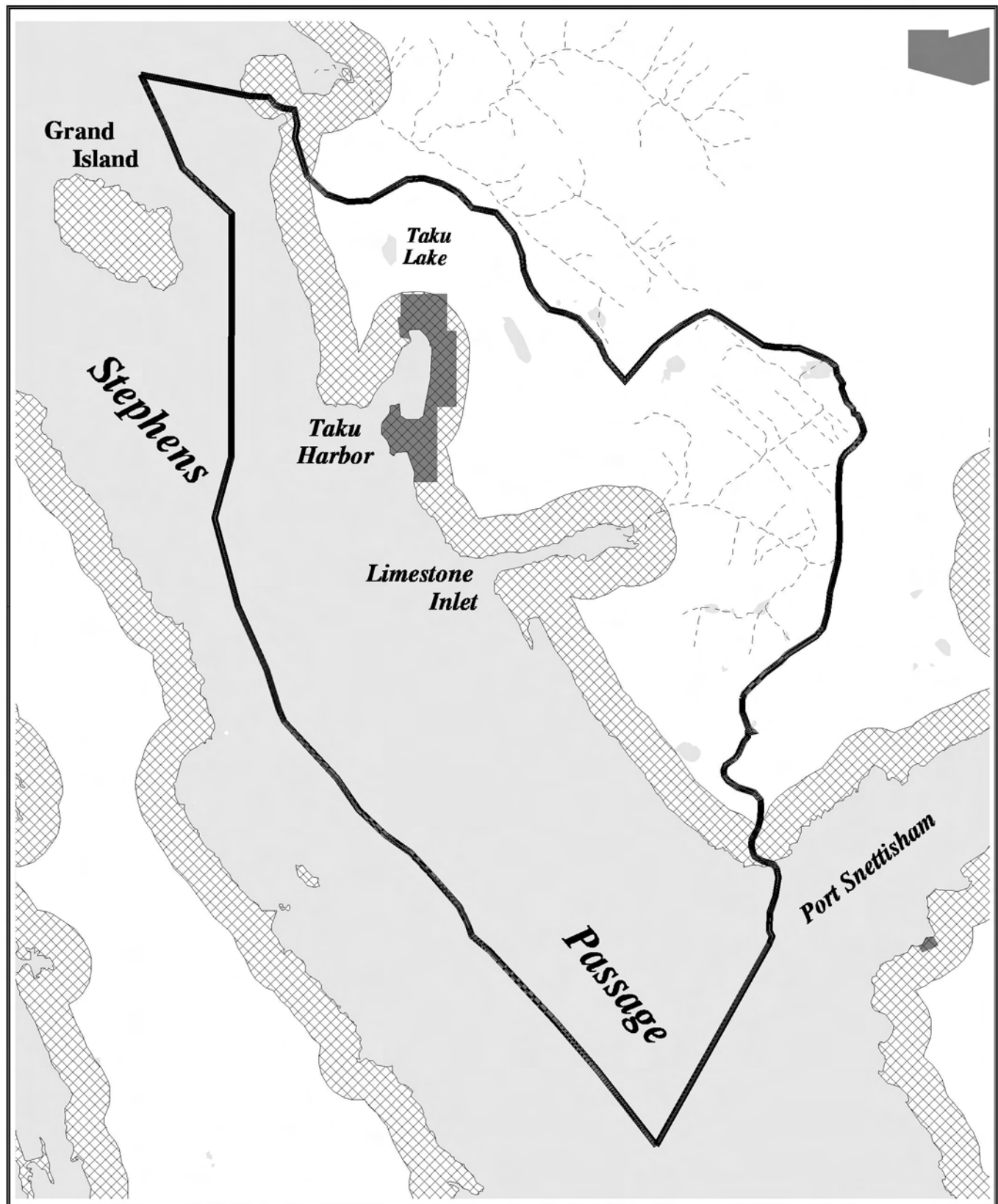
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
	Spr	Sum	Fall
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	30	75	25
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Taku Harbor
Use Area - 01-05A



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR



Use Area 01-05B

Port Snettisham – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
20	740	2,120	520
<u>Description</u> From Point Coke at the entrance of Port Snettisham and south to the entrance of Holkham Bay LUDs Modified Landscape, Old Growth, Remote Recreation, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, Timber Production, and Transportation and Utility System ROS Primitive, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, and Rural National Forest Shoreline Miles 226 miles National Forest Shoreline Acres 47,752 acres Communities None Alaska Coastal Management Act Juneau District Coastal Management Program			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> None			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> The largest private inholding includes the Port Snettisham Power Plant situated on 2,666 acres of state-selected lands. It provides power to the City and Borough of Juneau. There is also a large fish hatchery on private land.			
<u>Recreation Use</u> Area Attractions Close to Tracy Arm Wilderness, which allows for both a visit to Tracy Arm and shore excursion on same day, unaltered forest, shoreline conducive to walking, salmon viewing. Fishing and hunting occur within Port Snettisham and Gilbert Bay, in particular. Commercial Use Mountain goat and brown bear hunting and sightseeing Non-commercial Use Activities include wildlife viewing, bear hunting, and freshwater fishing; this unit is easily accessible from Juneau and has a number of anchorages. Use Patterns This area receives a high number of commercial gillnetting, shrimping, and crabbing vessels. Williams Cove receives concentrated use from commercial sightseeing and nature watch tours. Primary Use Areas Mallard Cove, Whiting River, Sweetheart Creek, and the head of Gilbert Bay, and Williams Cove			

Use Area 01-05B

Port Snettisham – Juneau Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

<i>Subsistence</i>	There are no anticipated restrictions to the use of subsistence resources due to this project
<i>Wildlife</i>	NMFS has identified one Steller sea lion haul-out in this use area. There are 89 mapped bald eagle nests.
<i>Fisheries</i>	Thirty-four Class I streams have been mapped in this area. There are several tributary streams and lakes in the Whiting River drainage that provide sport-fishing opportunities. All of these streams and lakes are outside of the shoreline zone. A stream in Speel Arm will likely have large numbers of hatchery-enhanced sockeye salmon in the future making it attractive to both guided and non-guided sport fishers. Gilbert Bay contains three streams with high fishing values. The outlet stream of Sweetheart Lake supports a hatchery enhanced run of sockeye salmon, is a popular personal use fishery for residents of Juneau, and provides some sport fishing opportunities.
<i>Botany</i>	No rare or sensitive plants were found after the completion of two surveys that covered 0.5 miles of shoreline.
<i>Cultural/Heritage</i>	Two prehistoric sites were identified in this use area from one survey covering 0.25 miles.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	50	300	50
<i>Enclaves</i>	Mallard Cove		
	West Gilbert Bay		
	Williams Cove		
	Point Anmer		
<i>15% Areas</i>	Point Coke		

* Williams Cove may be substituted for No Name Cove in any alternative.

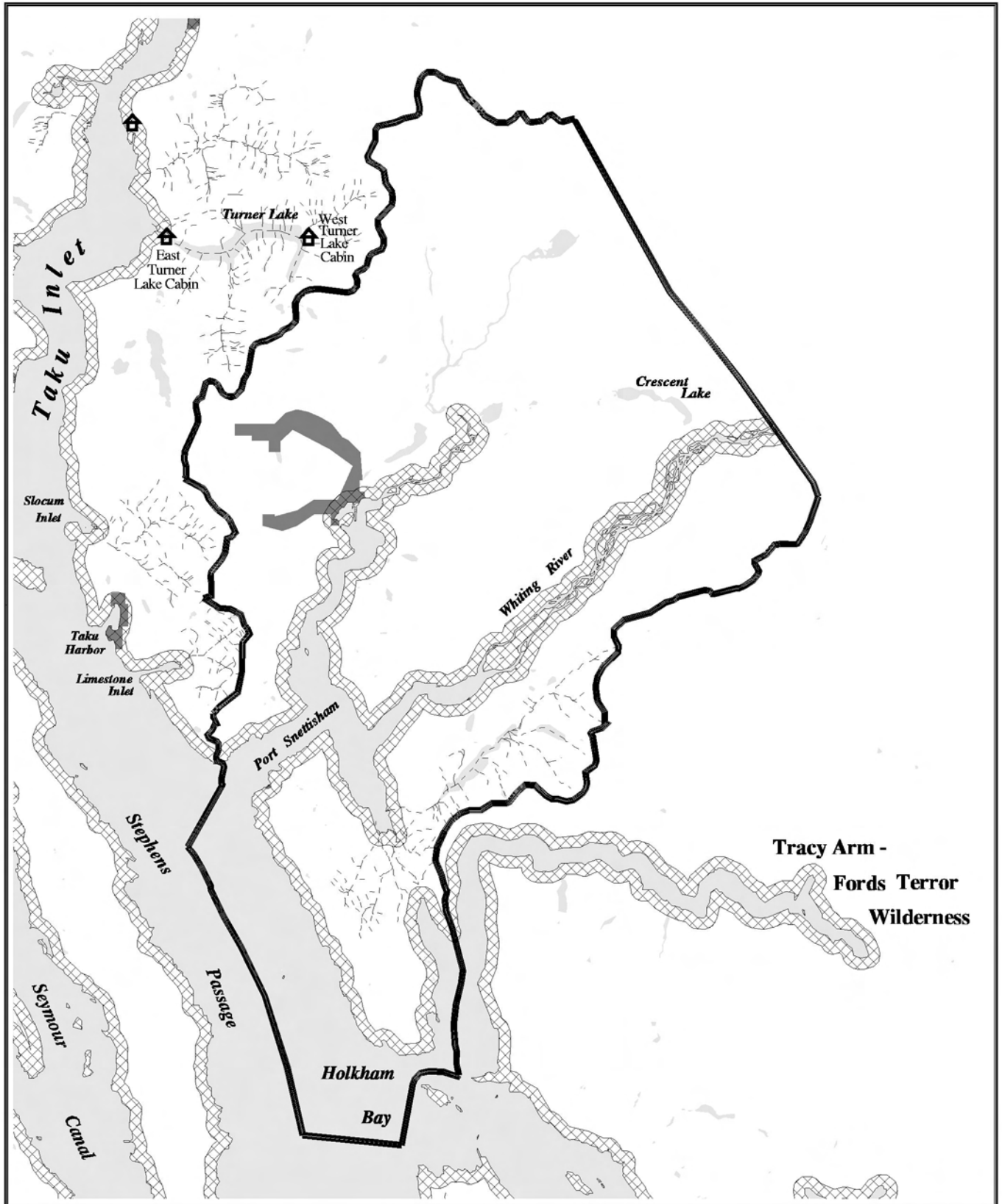
Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

State sport fishing regulations are in place to regulate fishing near fish structures on Crescent and Speel Lakes, as well as streams draining into Gilbert Bay.

Port Snettisham

Use Area - 01-05B



10.50 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin



USE AREA
LOCATOR



Use Area 01-05C

Windham Bay – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
26	962	2,756	676
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area extends from Pt. Astley to west of Endicott Arm, southward to Windham Bay continuing to the Juneau Ranger District Boundary south of Port Houghton. Windham Bay is a popular area for hunting, and for private, as well as commercial vessels, despite its narrow channel. It serves as an entry point to Chuck River Wilderness. Hobart Bay is an area that has had extensive logging, and is under private ownership.</p> <p>LUDs Old Growth, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, Timber Production, Wilderness, and Wilderness Monument</p> <p>ROS Roaded Modified, Roaded Natural, Primitive, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 141 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 35,191 acres</p> <p>Communities Hobart Bay</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Port Houghton</p> <p>Trails Taylor Lake</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Private property occurs in Hobart Bay. Extensive timber harvesting. The state maintains an offshore float for boats at Entrance Island where a recreation residence is also permitted. Private lands are also found in Port Houghton, Windham Bay, and the Chuck River.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Close to Tracy Arm allowing for same day visit with shore excursion. Scenic views, unaltered forest, wildlife viewing, kayaking, good beach access, diversity of landforms.</p> <p>Commercial Use Freshwater fishing, wildlife viewing, nature tours, black and brown bear hunting</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Fishing, camping, hunting</p> <p>Use Patterns Though some activity in this area originates from Juneau there is also influence from Petersburg, approximately 45 miles south.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Sandborn Canal, the head of Port Houghton and Windham Bay</p>			

Use Area 01-05C

Windham Bay – Juneau Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

NMFS identified two Steller sea lion haul-outs in this use area. In this use area, 258 bald eagle nests have been mapped.

Fisheries

Forty-one Class I streams have been mapped in this area, with five of these identified as having high fishing values. This area is far from both Juneau and Petersburg, and therefore receives light sport fishing pressure. Chuck River supports runs of pink, chum, coho, and king salmon, Dolly Varden char, cutthroat trout, and possibly steelhead. Hobart Bay has one stream that was identified as having high fishing values. In addition to this system there is a salt-chuck located within Hobart Bay. These systems contain pink, chum, and coho salmon, as well as Dolly Varden char and cutthroat trout. Port Houghton contains very productive freshwater systems with four streams identified as having high fishing values. The largest of these is the Rusty River, which flows into the salt-chuck at the head of Port Houghton. This stream contains runs of pink, chum, sockeye, and coho salmon as well as Dolly Varden char, cutthroat trout, and possibly steelhead. Another important stream in Port Houghton is at the head of Sandborn Canal. This stream has runs of pink, chum, and coho salmon, Dolly Varden char, cutthroat trout, and steelhead.

Botany

Poa laxiflora was found at two sites associated with tufted hairgrass. Ten surveys were completed on 0.75 miles of shoreline.

Cultural/Heritage

Thirty surveys covering 51.5 miles revealed 8 historic and 6 prehistoric sites in this use area.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

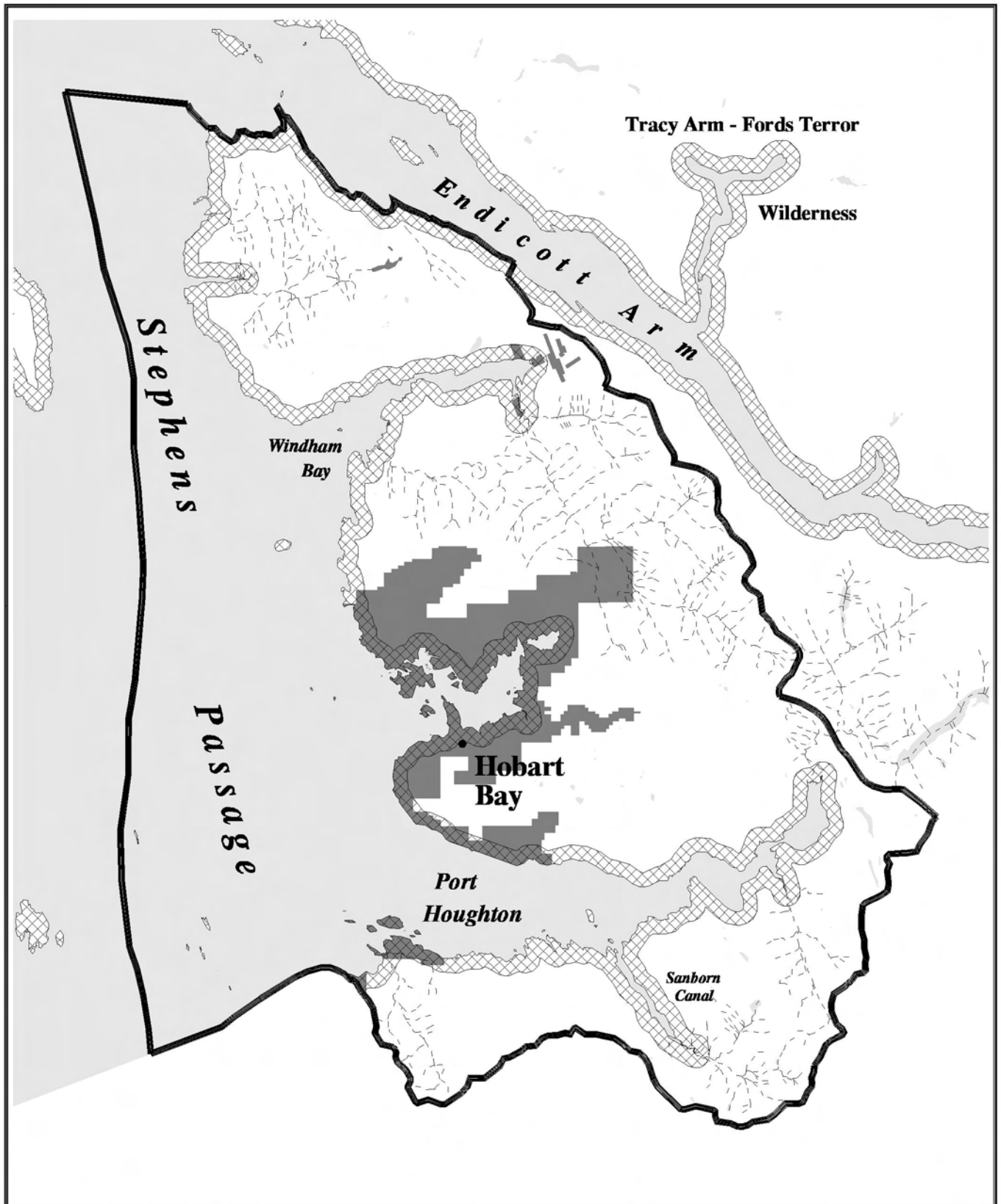
	Modified Alt. 4		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	50	300	75
Enclaves	Sand Bay		
	N. Windham Bay		
	Port Houghton		
	Fanshaw		
15% Areas	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

A cultural site management plan covering protection, interpretation, and monitoring will be in place before guided use will be permitted at the North Windham site for interpretive purposes.

Windham Bay
Use Area - 01-05C



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin

10.50 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles



Use Area 01-05D

Tracy Arm – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
12	444	1,272	312
<u>Description</u> This large use area includes the Tracy Arm and Endicott Arm Wilderness areas. LUDs Semi-Remote Recreation, Wilderness ROS Primitive, Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized National Forest Shoreline Miles 157 miles National Forest Shoreline Acres 40,446 acres Communities None Alaska Coastal Management Act Portions fall within the Juneau District Coastal Management Program.			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> None			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> None			
<u>Recreation Use</u> Area Attractions Scenic view and glaciers Commercial Use Kayak camping, goat and bear hunting, nature tours, and sightseeing Non-commercial Use Sightseeing, camping, kayaking, hiking, fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, and photography Use Patterns There is a high amount of cruise ship traffic that enters Tracy Arm to view the North and South Sawyer Glaciers. This area is also popular for kayakers. Endicott Arm receives higher levels of commercial fishing use than Tracy Arm, and has been a less-frequented destination for recreationists, although use is increasing. Commercial crab pots are stored in numerous places in Endicott Arm. Primary Use Areas Various sites along Tracy Arm			

Use Area 01-05D

Tracy Arm – Juneau Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

<i>Subsistence</i>	There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.
<i>Wildlife</i>	While only 20 bald eagle nests have been mapped in this area, it is assumed that nests are located along the shoreline in numbers at least equal to surveyed areas to the north. Goat hunting within Tracy Arm.
<i>Fisheries</i>	These fiords contain extremely steep terrain providing for few streams with good fish habitat and fishing opportunities. Eight Class I streams have been mapped in this area. No streams have been identified with high fishing values.
<i>Botany</i>	<i>Botrychium</i> ferns were found at one beach meadow site. Five surveys were completed on one mile of shoreline.
<i>Cultural/Heritage</i>	Three prehistoric sites and one historic site were discovered during 16 surveys of the area that covered 4.5 miles.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

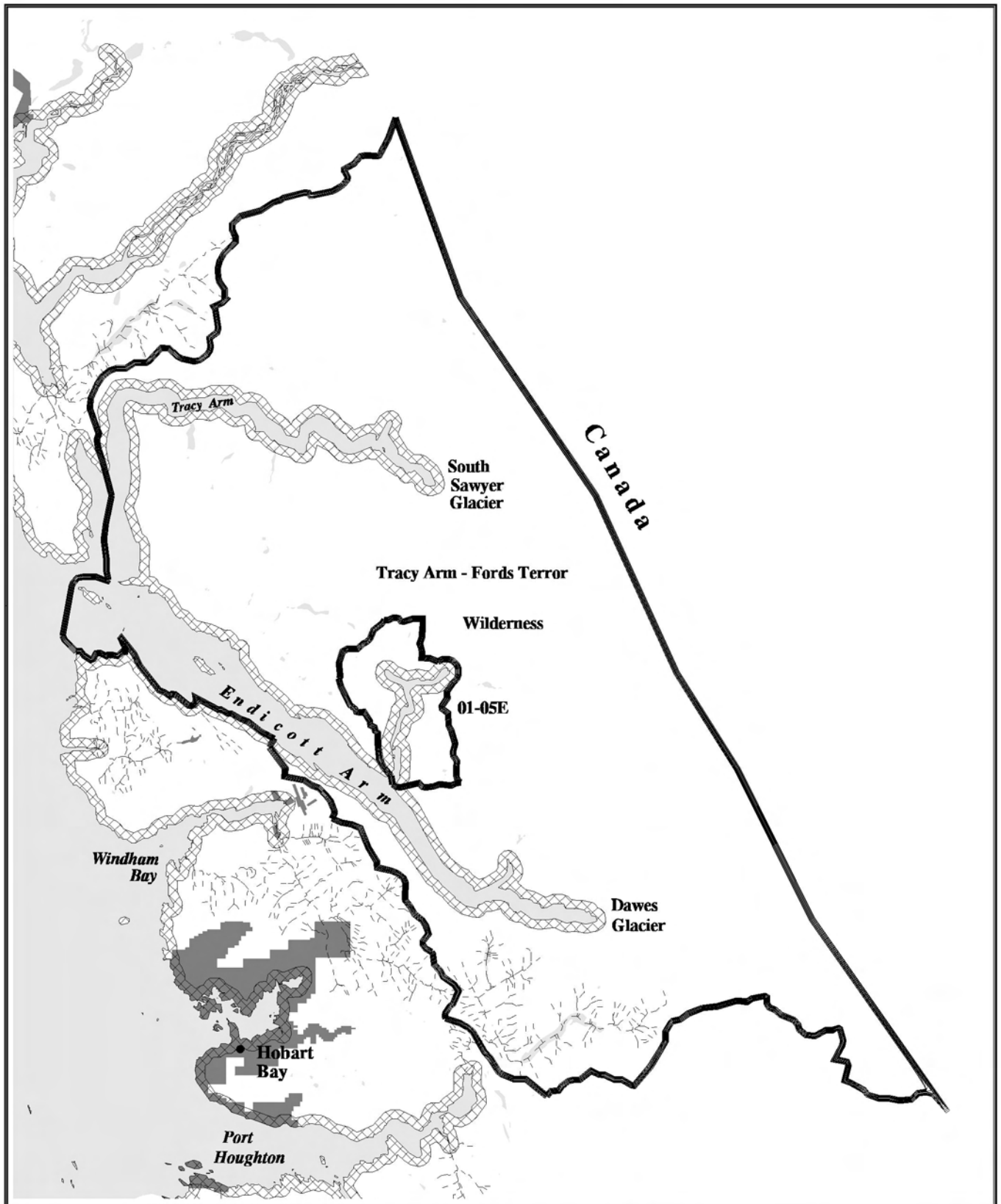
	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	30	100	25
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Goat and other big game issues will be addressed at the annual meeting with ADF&G. If necessary, harvest restrictions will be placed on guided hunting.

Tracy Arm Use Area - 01-05D



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin

0.5 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 01-05E

Fords Terror – Juneau Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
3	111	318	78
<u>Description</u> <p>This area encompasses Fords Terror, a wilderness area with unique characteristics that warrant a separate unit designation. Fords Terror is small fiord of Endicott Arm and has steep rock walls that can amplify and echo sounds.</p> <p>LUDs Wilderness</p> <p>ROS Primitive and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 22 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 6,652 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Scenic views</p> <p>Commercial Use Kayak camping tours and day use</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Kayaking and kayak camping</p> <p>Use Patterns There are six identified campsites in the area managed in a ‘rest-rotation’ schedule to minimize site impacts. Campsite ‘T’ is one of the two most heavily used sites in Fords Terror. The other occurs on the west shore just before the narrows, a potentially dangerous passage of swirling water at high and low tides, hence the area's name. Because of narrow access and unpredictable currents at running tides, this is not a high use area.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Six campsites within this use area, with the site at the ‘T’ receiving the most use</p>			

Use Area 01-05E

Fords Terror – Juneau Ranger District

Potential Areas for Large Group Use

None identified

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

No issues or concerns

Fisheries

No high value fishing streams identified.

Botany

There are no known sensitive plants. This area has not received intensive surveys. Beach meadows and camping spots may be sensitive to recreation use.

Cultural/Heritage

There are no known sites. This area has not been intensively surveyed.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

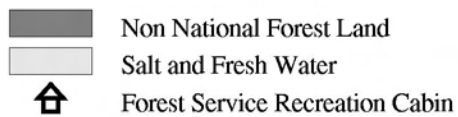
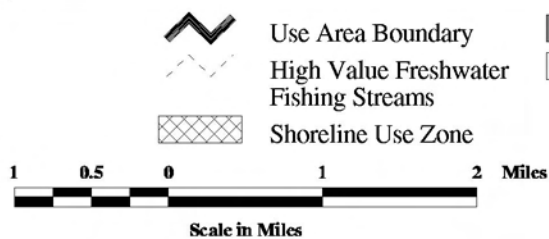
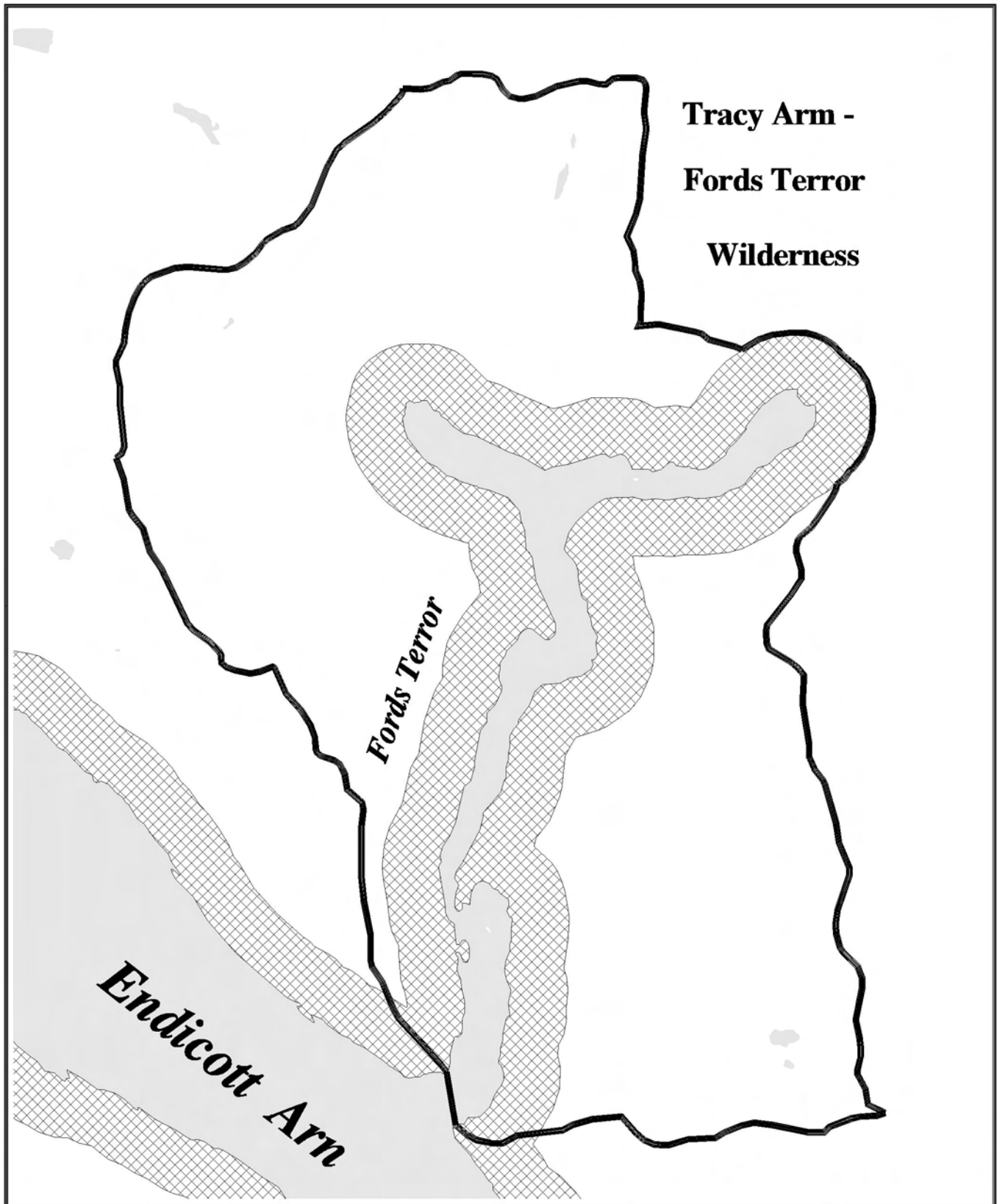
	ModifiedAlt. 5		
	Spr	Sum	Fall
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	15	25	15
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

In Fords Terror, guided use will be limited to using a single site for no more than two consecutive nights. Only two camping sites, “Middle T” and “North Narrows”, will be available for group sizes larger than six people.

Fords Terror
Use Area - 01-05E



Use Area 04-01A

Gut Bay (Southeast Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
8	296	848	208
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area, on southeastern Baranof Island, extends from south of Warm Springs Bay to the mouth of Patterson Bay including the eastern portion of the South Baranof Wilderness. This use area is characterized by stretches of inaccessible coastline adjacent to Chatham Strait with numerous small bays and coves. Four large bays (Red Bluff, Hoggatt, Gut, and Patterson) provide reliable anchorages and good access to the uplands.</p> <p>LUDs Wilderness and Remote Recreation</p> <p>ROS Primitive and Semi-Primitive Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 123 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 29,818 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Sitka District Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, hiking, sightseeing</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, hiking, sightseeing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Most non-commercial use is transient boaters, especially on the uplands adjacent to the area's protected bays.</p> <p>Use Patterns Commercial trollers and crabbers; boat based commercial outfitter/guides and recreational boaters.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Red Bluff Bay is a popular anchorage for boats transiting Chatham Strait and is a convenient anchorage for people accessing Falls Lake. Patterson and Gut Bays are also used.</p>			

Use Area 04-01A

Gut Bay (Southeast Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

Gut Bay and Falls Lake support subsistence sockeye fisheries for the community of Kake. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource uses as a result of this project.

Wildlife

One NFMS identified Steller sea lion haul-out is located in this use area. Although not mapped, bald eagle nests are presumed to exist in similar numbers found in surveyed areas to the north of this GUA. Harbor seal haul outs.

Fisheries

Fifty-nine Class I streams have been mapped in this area. Three streams were identified with high fishing potential. Two of these, Gut Bay and Falls Lake, are subsistence sockeye systems. Gut Bay and Falls Lake support subsistence sockeye fisheries for the community of Kake. Due to possible declines in escapement, the Federal Subsistence Board recently closed sport fishing for sockeye in these systems, to protect the subsistence fishing priority. An important stream enters at the head of Gut Bay, which produces a large number of pink salmon and Dolly Varden char. See Appendix C, Mitigation Measures.

Botany

Two botanical surveys have been completed on one-half mile of shoreline within this GUA with no rare or sensitive plants found.

Cultural/Heritage

Eight surveys have been completed in this area covering 3.5 miles. Three historic sites have been identified.

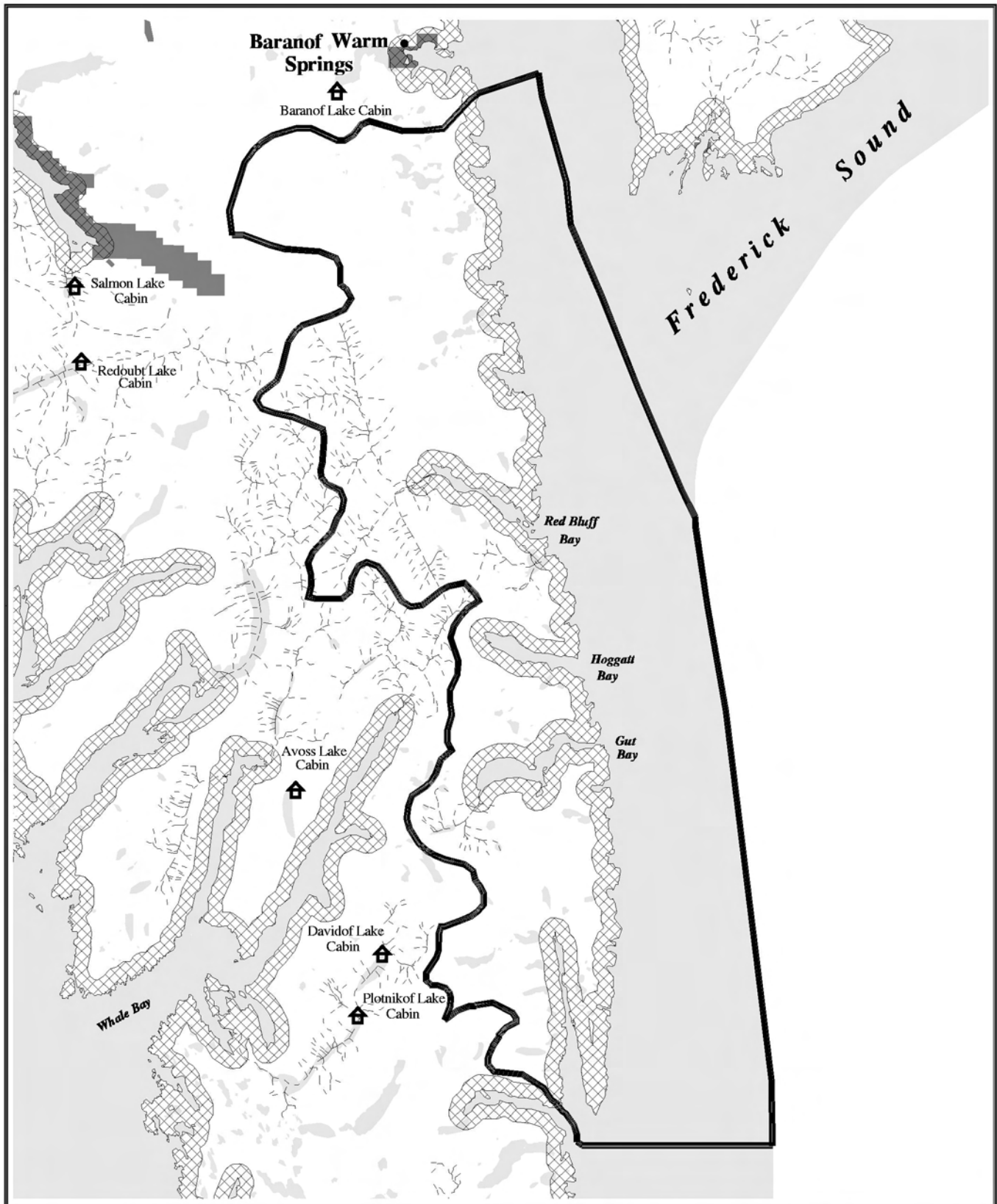
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	27	96	20
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Cut Bay Use Area - 04-01A



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

10.50 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR



Use Area 04-01B

Port Armstrong (Southeastern Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
7	259	742	182
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area is located on southeastern Baranof Island, extending from the mouth of Patterson Bay to Cape Ommaney, then north along the west side of the island including Larch Bay. Much of the outer coastline and coastline adjacent to Chatham Strait is inaccessible. Numerous small bays and coves are accessible depending on weather conditions. A number of large bays including Deep Cove, Port Herbert, Port Walter, Port Lucy, Port Armstrong, John Bay, and Port Conclusion provide anchorages and good access to the uplands.</p> <p>LUDs Remote Recreation and Semi-Remote Recreation</p> <p>ROS Primitive and Semi-Primitive Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 134 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 25,747 acres</p> <p>Communities The small community of Port Alexander is located within this use area.</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Excluding Port Alexander, this use area is within the boundary of the Sitka District Coastal Management Program.</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Private land is found near the communities of Port Armstrong and Port Alexander. State land surrounds the private holdings within the small community of Port Alexander. Private land with a cabin is located at the head of Port Conclusion. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association has active fisheries development projects Deer Lake and Mist Cove. A National Marine Fisheries Service hatchery and permanent housing are located at Little Port Walter.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Port Alexander, Port Armstrong, Little Port Walter, and Mist Cove</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, and hiking, and operators of several lodges in Port Alexander are permitted for guiding on National Forest System land.</p> <p>Non-commercial Use There is substantial non-commercial use from the local communities listed above.</p> <p>Use Patterns Boat based commercial outfitter/guides, commercial fishing and recreational boating</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Mist Cove</p> <p>Areas of Concern Trail to Deer Lake from Mist Cove is very scenic with falls but trail is currently closed for public use because of safety concerns. Sashin Lake trail is also currently closed for safety reasons.</p>			

Use Area 04-01B

Port Armstrong (Southeastern Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

No anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

Two NMFS-identified Steller sea lion haul-outs located in this area. Although there are only 10-mapped bald eagle nests, it is assumed that nests are located along the shoreline in numbers at least equal to surveyed areas to the north.

Fisheries

South Baranof Island is a relatively narrow mountainous region favoring shorter steeper streams. While over 100 Class I streams have been mapped in this area, the larger fish bearing streams are absent. However, several lakes with good sport fishing opportunities are found within the project area. Betty and Jetty Lakes drain into Port Armstrong and contain good populations of rainbow trout. The Sashin Lake and Creek system empties into Little Port Walter and is an important fisheries research area for the adjacent NMFS station. Deer Lake has a coho-rearing project run by NSRAA.

Botany

Four botanical surveys have been done covering about ¾ mile of the shoreline in this use area. *Mimulus lewisii* was found on a beach meadow site in Deep Cove.

Cultural/Heritage

A total of 78 cultural surveys covering 28 miles have been completed, with 6 historical sites identified within this use area. Old cannery site in Port Walter is a concern

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Modified Alt. 4		
	Spr	Sum	Fall
	28	68	19
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

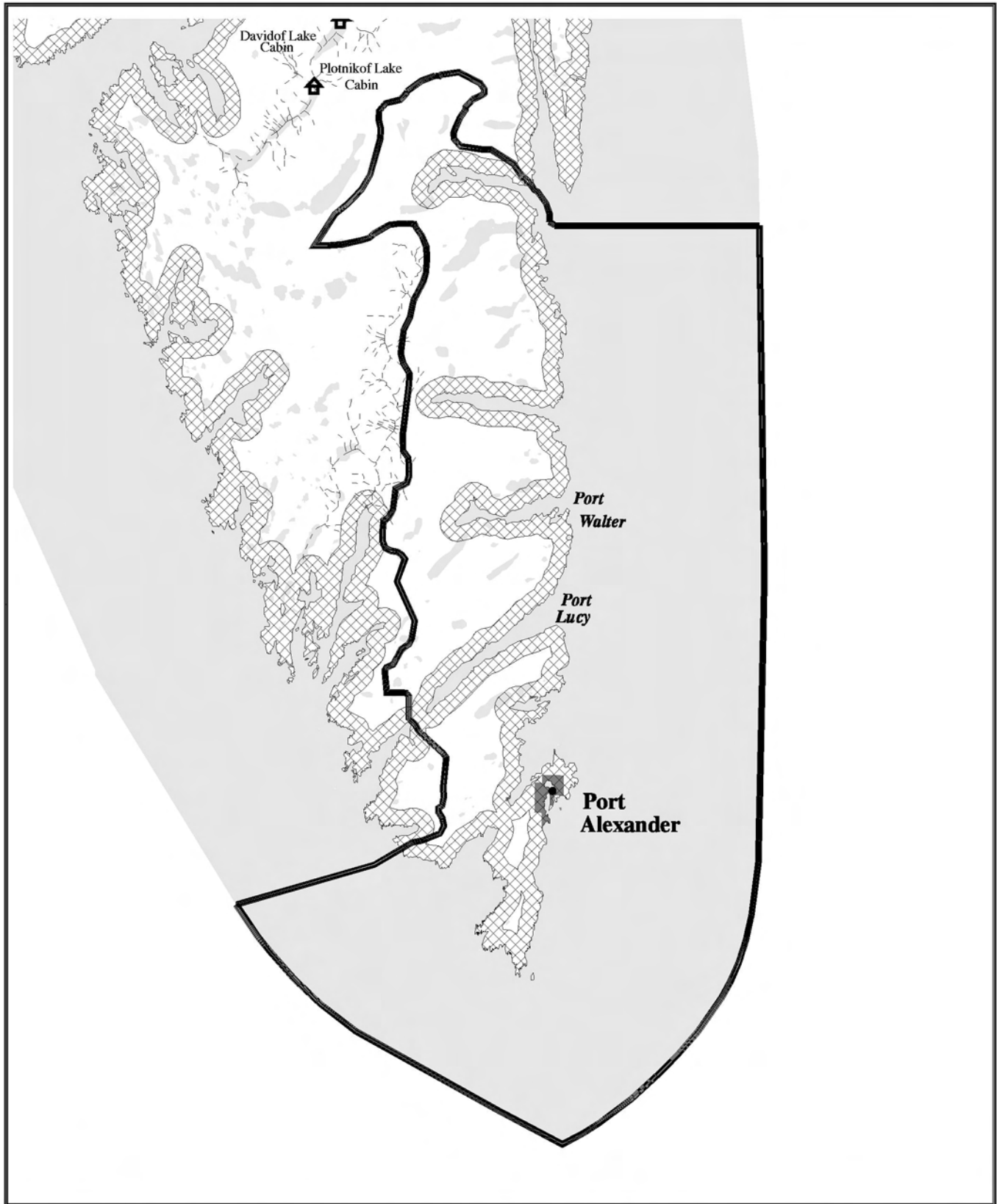
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Guided use of Mist Cove/Deer Lake trail and the Little Port Walter/Sashin Lake trail will not be permitted until the trails are reconstructed.

Guided hunting will not be permitted within one mile of the community of Port Alexander.

No guided use will be permitted at the Port Walter cannery site or other eligible cultural sites.

Port Armstrong Use Area - 04-01B



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.50 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 04-02A

Redoubt Lake (Central Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	222	636	156
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area is located on the southwestern portion of Baranof Island and extending from south of Three Entrance Bay to north of President Bay including a number of smaller offshore islands. The outer coast of this use area is swept by ocean swell and largely inaccessible. However, some areas provide protected access to the uplands such as Redoubt, Kanga, Big, and Seven Fathom Bays. While boaters traveling to these areas will be exposed to ocean swell, much of the travel route is in the relatively sheltered water behind offshore islands.</p> <p>LUDs Modified Landscape, Old Growth, and Semi-Remote Recreation</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Roaded Modified, Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-motorized, and Roaded Natural</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 253 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 19,081 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Sitka District Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Redoubt Lake, Kanga, and Seven Fathom</p> <p>Trails Salmon Lake/Redoubt Trail</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>The unified City and Borough of Sitka manage several hot spring bath-houses at Goddard on city and borough property, and a trail that runs from Goddard to the west end of Redoubt Lake. Goddard is a popular destination for residents of Sitka. There are also several private parcels of land at Goddard, as well as a tract of state select land. There are two parcels of encumbered Native Allotment claims, near Kizuchia Creek, and two Regional Corporation selections at the outlet of Redoubt Lake. State select lands associated with an air navigation facility are found on Biorka Island.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Goddard Hot Springs (private), Forest Service recreation cabins, several sandy beaches popular for picnicking, and subsistence sockeye fishery at Redoubt Lake</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, camping, sightseeing, and picnicking</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Salmon fishing, hot springs, and hiking</p> <p>Use Patterns The entire area is popular with residents of Sitka for recreation, subsistence uses, and commercial fishing.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Biorka Island, Redoubt Bay, Goddard, Big Bay, and Seven Fathom Bay</p>			

Use Area 04-02A

Redoubt Lake (Central Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

<i>Subsistence</i>	Redoubt Lake has a subsistence sockeye fisheries used by the residents of Sitka. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.
<i>Wildlife</i>	Two NMFS identified Steller sea lion haul-outs and 30 mapped bald eagle nests are located within this use area.
<i>Fisheries</i>	In this use area, 13 Class I streams and two high value streams have been mapped. Redoubt Lake is the largest producer of sockeye salmon for subsistence uses for Sitka. Guided fishing is not allowed at Redoubt Lake during the personal use sockeye fishery.
<i>Botany</i>	One survey covering ¼-mile of shoreline was completed with no rare or sensitive plants found.
<i>Cultural/Heritage</i>	Nine surveys covering 2.5 miles revealed six historic and two prehistoric sites.

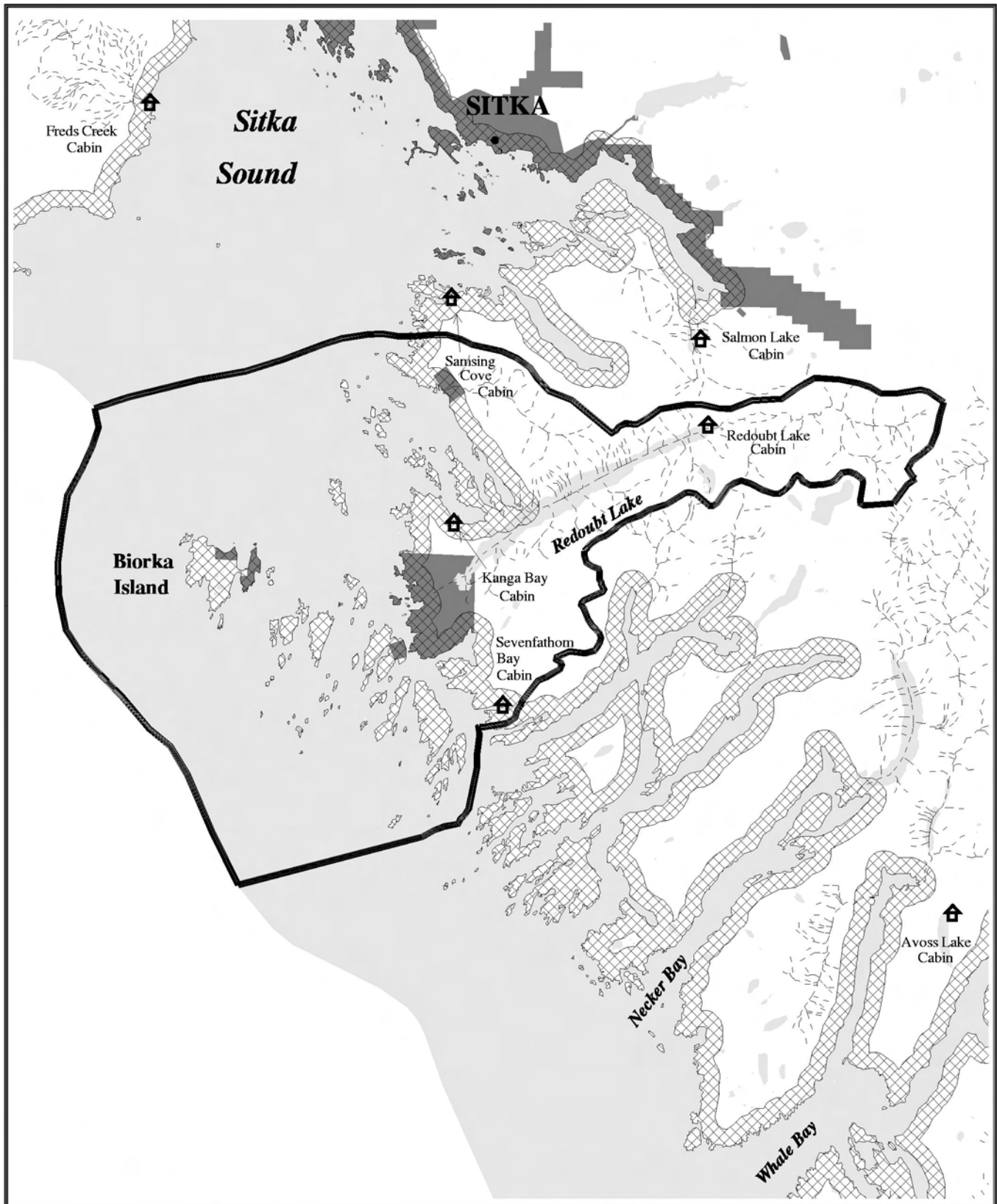
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	ModifiedAlt. 5		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	13	45	11
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		
<i>Guided Fishing Restrictions</i>	Yes		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Redoubt Lake
Use Area - 04-02A



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 04-02B

Whale Bay (Southwest Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
18	666	1,908	468
Description			
Located on the southwestern portion of Baranof Island, this use area extends from north of President Bay, to south of Little Puffin Bay including a number of offshore islands and the western portion of the South Baranof Wilderness. The analysis area is characterized by an inaccessible outer coast with bays providing protected access to the uplands including: President, Necker, Whale, Sandy, Snipe, Byron, Red Fish, Little Branch, Puffin and Little Puffin Bays, and both Crawfish and West Crawfish Inlets.			
LUDs	Remote Recreation and Wilderness		
ROS	Primitive, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-motorized		
National Forest Shoreline Miles	525 miles		
National Forest Shoreline Acres	82,909 acres		
Communities	None		
Alaska Coastal Management Act	Sitka District Coastal Management Program		
Forest Service Facilities			
Public Recreation Cabins	One cabin each is located near the shores of Davidof Lake, Plotnikof Lake and Avoss Lake, however these cabins are each located more than a mile inland from the saltwater shoreline.		
Trails	Trail from Davidof Lake to Plotnikof Lake		
Non-National Forest System Lands			
All the land within this use area is National Forest System land. An outfitter/guide operates a tent camp in Rakavoi Bay during the summer months.			
Recreation Use			
Area Attractions	Hunting, sport and subsistence fishing, Forest Service recreation cabins, remote recreation and scenic values		
Commercial Use	Camping, brown bear and goat hunting, freshwater fishing, hiking, picnicking, and Rakavoi/Whale Bay outfitter/guide summer camp		
Non-commercial Use	The northern reaches of this area receive use by residents and visitors from Sitka. Offshore islands provide a protected water route to Necker Bay. Beyond Necker Bay small skiff travel is determined by sea conditions and recreational use in the southern reaches of the use area is sporadic. Of particular importance to residents are the Special Management Areas listed in the Sitka Coastal Zone Management Plan.		

Use Area 04-02B

Whale Bay (Southwest Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Use Patterns

Due to the remote nature of this area use decreases to the south. The northern bays include West Crawfish, Crawfish, and Necker get substantial use by small skiff.

Primary Use Areas

West Crawfish, Crawfish, Necker and Whale Bay

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are important subsistence fisheries for the residents of Sitka. The annual average return of subsistence fishing permits is 125 for use of Necker Bay, Politofski Lake, and Redfish Lake. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.

Wildlife

Two NMFS identified Steller sea lion haul-outs located in this use area. Bald eagle nests are believed to exist in numbers at least equal to surveyed areas to the north of this use area.

Fisheries

Nine streams were identified as having high fishing values. Three of these streams are important to subsistence sockeye systems. Necker Bay contains the second largest producer of sockeye salmon (Benzeman Lake) for subsistence users from Sitka. Politofski Lake is a sockeye producer that drains into Whale Bay. Tumakof Lake drains into Redfish Bay and supports a good run of large sockeye salmon. A somewhat unique summer run of coho salmon passes through Port Banks, returning to Plotnikof Lake. This system also supports a small run of steelhead. Other important fish producing systems include the streams at the head of West Crawfish Inlet, No Name Bay (West Crawfish Inlet), and Sandy Bay.

Botany

Seventeen surveys have been completed on 3-½ miles of shoreline, with no rare or sensitive plants found.

Cultural/Heritage

Twenty-two surveys covering 3.75 miles revealed seven historic and eight prehistoric sites.

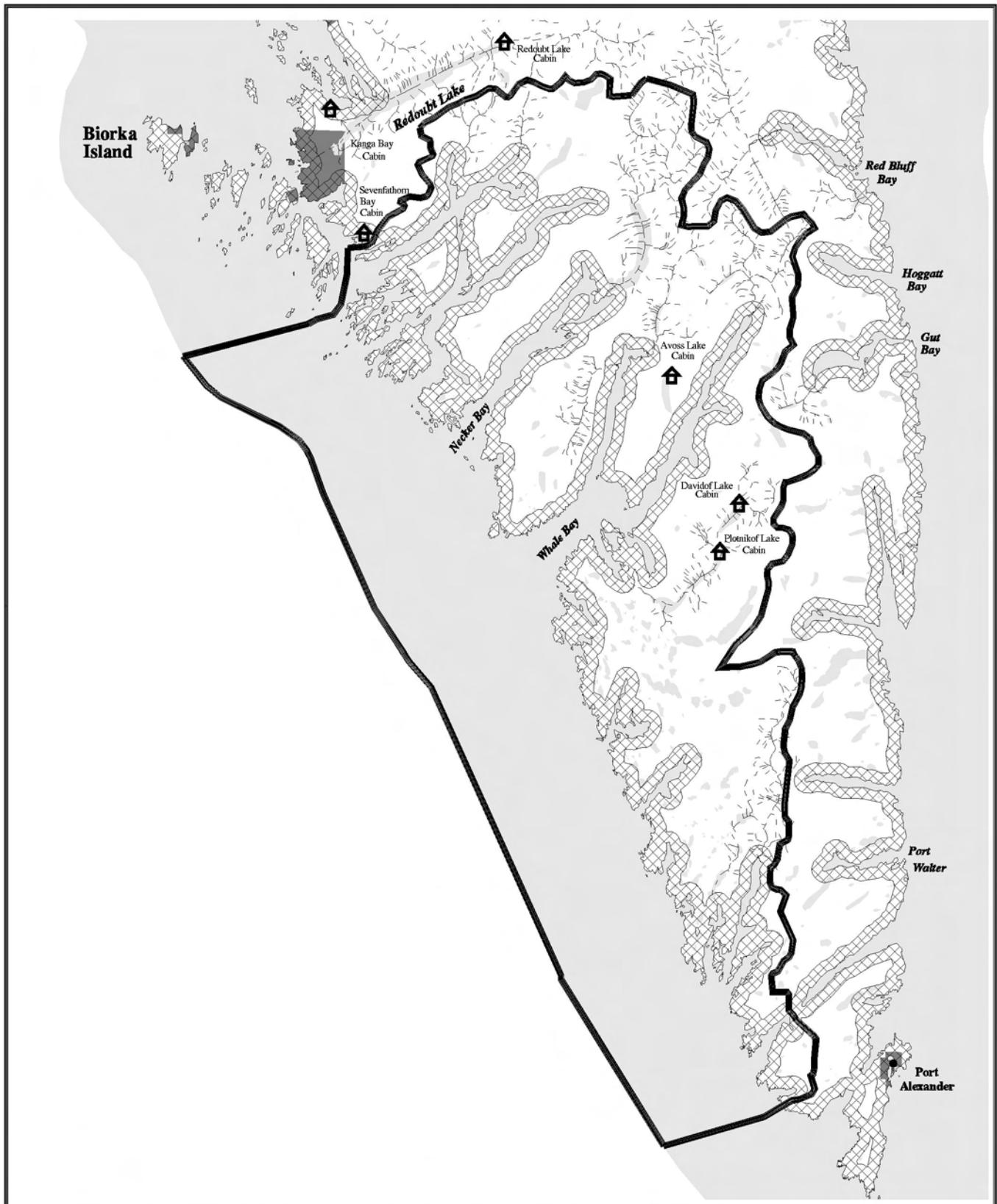
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	ModifiedAlt. 5		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	50	168	34
Enclaves	None		
15% Areas	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Whale Bay Use Area - 04-02B



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

10.50 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR



Use Area 04-03

Sitka Area (West Central Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
40	1,480	4,240	1,040
Description This use area includes a small portion of the West Chichagof – Yakobi Wilderness (along the north shore of Salisbury Sound) and the following islands: Kruzof, Partofshikof, Halleck, Krestof, northwest Baranof, and the Siginaka Islands from north of Fish Bay to south of Three Entrance Bay. A Special Interest Area, Mount Edgecumbe Geological Area, is also found in this use area. Much of the shoreline is protected and provides easy access to uplands in numerous bays, sounds, and straits. The outer coastline along Kruzof Island’s western shore is relatively inaccessible from the water.			
LUDs	Modified Landscape, Old Growth, Remote Recreation, Special Interest, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, and Timber Production, and Wilderness		
ROS	Primitive, Roaded Modified, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-motorized		
National Forest Shoreline Miles	417 miles		
National Forest Shoreline Acres	76,413 acres		
Communities	The community of Sitka is located within this use area.		
Alaska Coastal Management Act	Portions of the area are covered under the Sitka District Coastal Management Program and amendments under the City and Borough of Sitka Parks and Recreation Plan.		
Forest Service Facilities			
Public Recreation Cabins	Cabins are located at Brent’s Beach, Fred’s Creek, Shelikof Bay, North Beach, Allan Point, Piper Island, Salmon Lake, Samsing, and Suloia Lake; however, the cabins at Suloia and Salmon Lakes are located more than a mile inland from the saltwater shoreline.		
Special Use Cabins	There are three private recreation cabins on National Forest System lands under special use permit: two in Birdsnest Bay and one in Sukoi Inlet.		
Shelters	Neva, Kakul, Mud Bay and Mt. Edgecumbe		
Trails	Mt. Edgecumbe Trail is a National Recreation Trail that leads to the top of Mt. Edgecumbe. There is a trail from Silver Bay past Salmon Lake to Redoubt Lake. There are also several road systems accessible only by water that are used as hiking and ATV trails, including: Mud Bay to Shelikof Bay and North Beach, Eagle River, Nakwasina, and Saint John Baptist Bay.		
Non-National Forest System Lands There are numerous tracts of non-National Forest System lands within the area, including private and municipal lands within the City and Borough of Sitka; Native Corporation lands at Katlian Bay, Krugloi Point, and Sealion Cove; state lands at Port Krestof, Lisianski Peninsula, Kalinin Bay, Starrigavan, Silver Bay, and the Magoun Islands; and private lands at Dog Point, and on the islands of Sitka Sound. In addition, there are encumbered lands involving Native Allotment Claims at St. John Baptist Bay, Nakwasina Sound, and Sinitsin Cove.			

Use Area 04-03

Sitka Area (West Central Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Recreation Use

Area Attractions	Forest Service cabins, hiking trails, fishing, hunting, scenic views, and old growth forest
Commercial Use	Brown bear hunting, camping, freshwater fishing, goat hunting, hiking, picnicking, and sightseeing
Non-commercial Use	This use area is easily accessible and is popular with residents and non-guided visitors from Sitka. Of particular importance to residents, are the destinations listed as Special Management Areas in the Sitka Coastal Zone Management Plan.
Use Patterns	Both residents and non-residents use the entire area. Residents disperse and use accessible uplands along the many miles of protected shoreline.
Primary Use Areas	The most heavily used areas include all of the Sitka Accessible sites and the Kruzof road system.

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence	There are several stream systems that are important for subsistence users from Sitka. An annual average of 25 subsistence-fishing permits were returned for use at Salmon Lake, Neva Creek, and Aleutkina Bay. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.
Wildlife	NMFS has identified two Steller sea lion haul outs in this use area. There also are 192 mapped bald eagle nests.
Fisheries	This use area receives extensive use by subsistence, sport and commercial fishers. There are at least 14 major anadromous streams with high freshwater fishing values. These systems support returns of coho, chum, and pink salmon. Dolly Varden char are abundant in many systems. Some Sitka subsistence fishers have concerns about the diminished returns of coho salmon to streams near Sitka and the increase in guided and unguided sport fishing. Though guided freshwater sport fishing on Forest Service lands has not dramatically increased in recent years, saltwater use may explain some of the local crowding concerns. Most of the sport fishing effort in the Sitka area occurs on saltwater. Salmon Lake has a small run of sockeye salmon, which is protected by ADF&G fishing restrictions.
Botany	Six surveys were conducted. <i>Romanzoffia unalaschensis</i> was identified adjacent to a stream.
Cultural/Heritage	Sixteen historic and 37 prehistoric sites were identified from 76 surveys covering 76.5 miles.

Use Area 04-03

Sitka Area (West Central Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

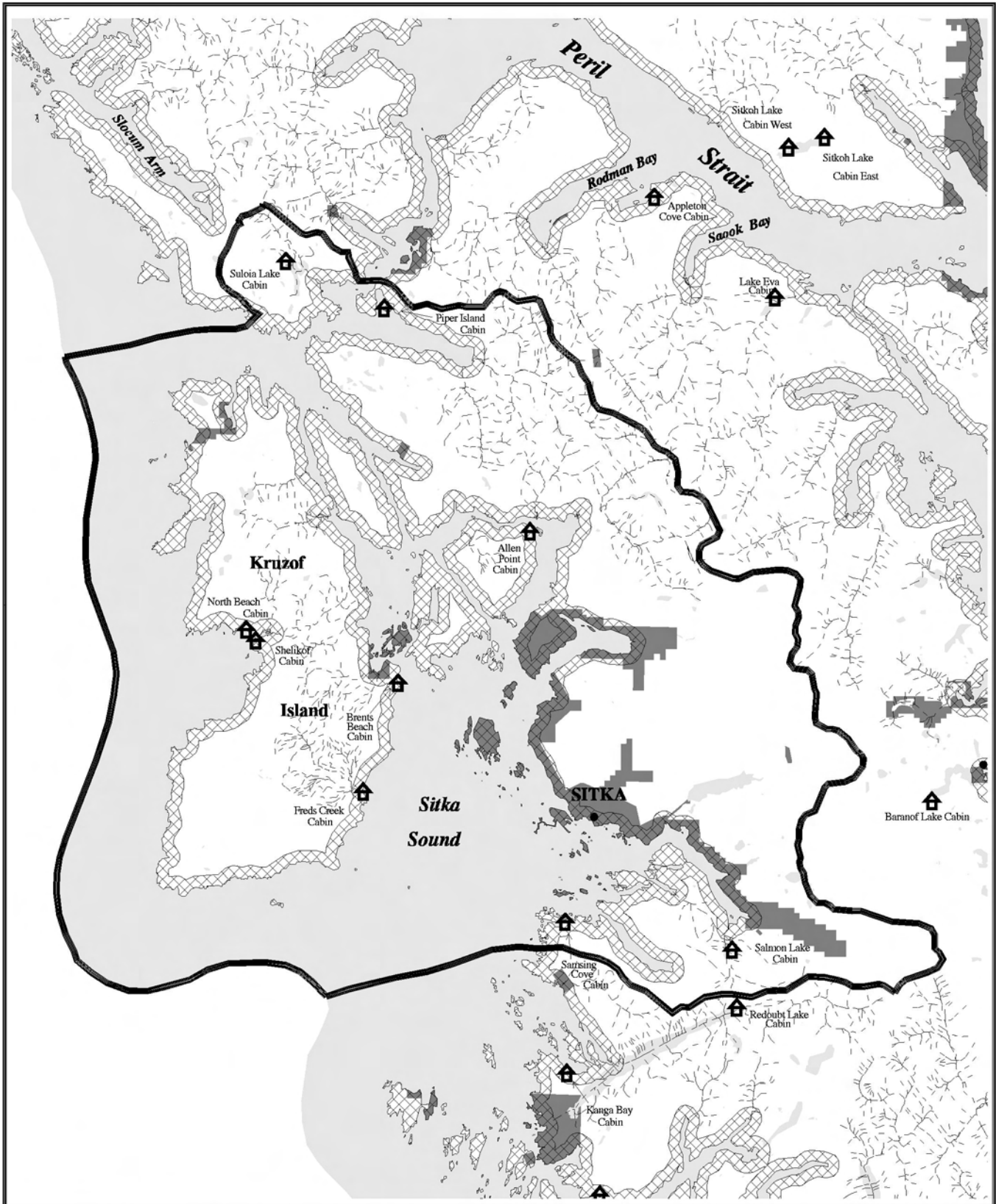
	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	100	584	78
<i>Enclaves</i>	Eagle River Road		
	Dry Pass		
	Noxon		
<i>15% Areas</i>	Fish Bay		
	Nadezhida Islands		




Mitigation




See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Sitka Area


Use Area - 04-03



-  Use Area Boundary
-  High Value Freshwater Fishing Streams
-  Shoreline Use Zone

-  Non National Forest Land
-  Salt and Fresh Water
-  Forest Service Recreation Cabin



10.50 1 2 Miles

 Scale in Miles

Use Area 04-04A

Lake Eva, Rodman Bay (North Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
8	208	936	208
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area is located on the northern end of Baranof Island extending from just west of Peschani Point, to just east of the Lake Eva trail. Shoreline access is dictated by weather conditions (north Baranof Island/Peril Strait) and by easily accessed shoreline in the areas few bays: Rodman Bay, Appleton Cove, Saook Bay, and Hanus Bay.</p> <p>LUDs Modified Landscape, Old Growth, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, and Timber Production</p> <p>ROS Roaded Modified, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 53 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 13,457 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Sitka District Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Appleton Cove and Lake Eva. The Lake Eva cabin is located more than a mile inland from the saltwater shoreline.</p> <p>Trail Lake Eva Trail</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>A floating lodge has been proposed in the adjacent Use Area at the False Island Bight. If the lodge becomes active and guiding activities occur, it is anticipated that the clientele would also utilize the uplands of this use area. A parcel of private land, associated with a patented mining claim, is located on the southern shore of Rodman Bay.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Recreation cabins, Lake Eva Trail, wildlife and salmon viewing, old growth forest and opportunities for viewing large stand of trees</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, and hiking by mid-size cruise ship tours</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Hunting, freshwater fishing, and sightseeing</p> <p>Use Patterns This use area is important to the residents of Sitka. Travel to this area from Sitka is through protected waterways that can be traveled in most weather conditions. Due to its proximity to the most traveled water route to Sitka, the area receives a fair amount of unguided use by transient boaters.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Rodman Bay, Appleton Cove, Hanus Bay, and Saook Bay are use areas. The Lake Eva trail receives heavy use by sockeye subsistence fishermen and from boat-based outfitter/guides.</p> <p>Areas of Concern Lake Eva trail receives heavy use.</p>			

Use Area 04-04A

Lake Eva, Rodman Bay (North Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

In this use area, 73 bald eagle nests have been mapped.

Fisheries

Twenty-one Class I streams have been mapped, five of which are high value fishing streams. Large runs of pink and chum salmon, and anadromous Dolly Varden char return to these streams in addition to the resident populations of Dolly Varden char. The Lake Eva system supports sockeye, coho, and pink salmon, steelhead, cutthroat, and Dolly Varden char. Steelhead and sockeye runs are relatively small. Lake Eva sockeye are a subsistence resource for the village of Angoon and to a lesser degree for Sitka.

Botany

Four botanical surveys have been completed covering about 1.5 miles of shoreline in close proximity to the outlet stream from Lake Eva. No rare or sensitive plants were found.

Cultural/Heritage

One historic and seven prehistoric sites have been identified in this area from 17 surveys covering 41.5 miles.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	28	235	18
<i>Enclaves</i>	Point Elizabeth		
	Rodman Bay		
	Saook Bay		
	Lake Eva Trail		
<i>15% Areas</i>	Duffield		

Mitigation

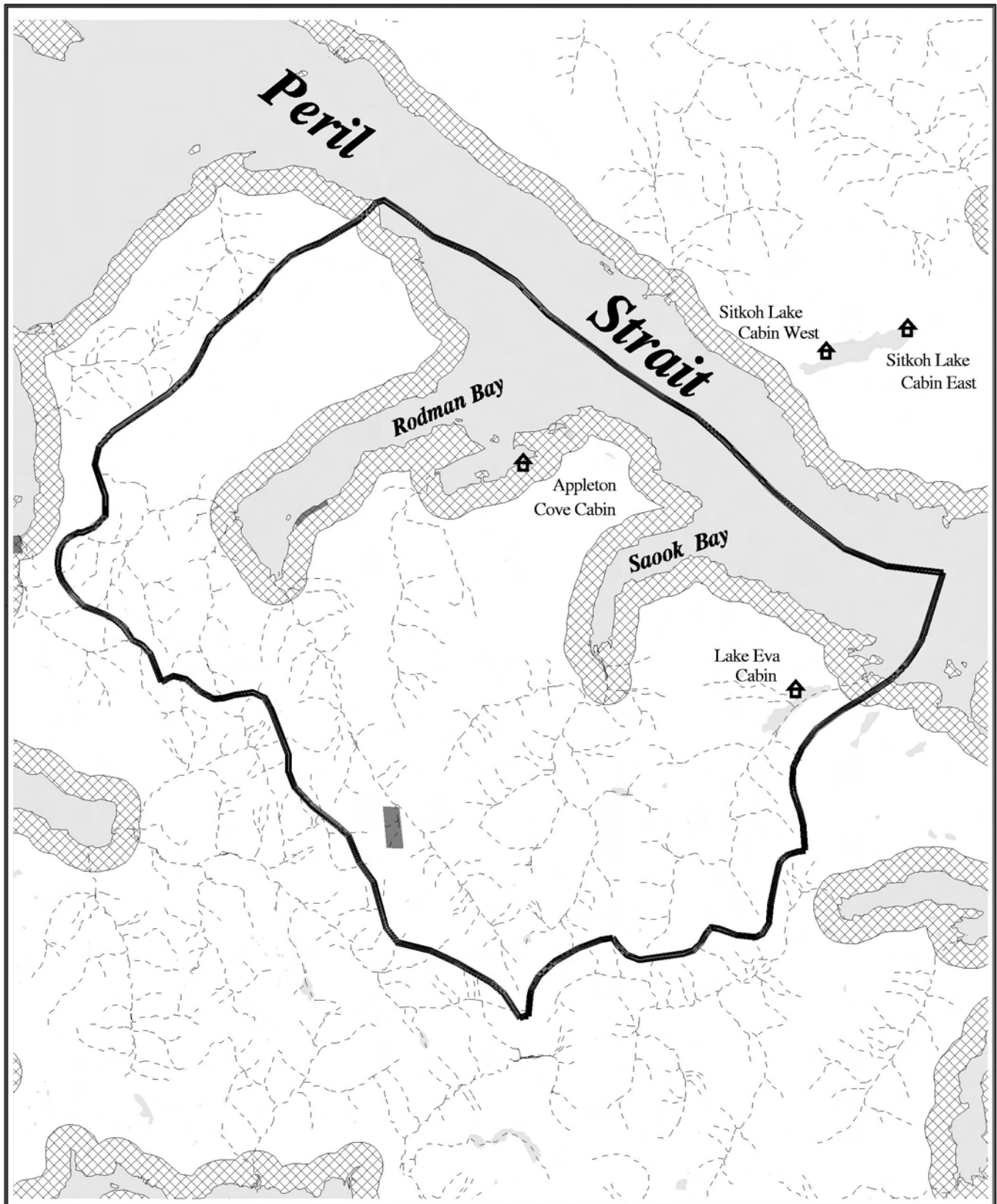
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Outfitter Guides will not be permitted to fly clients into Lake Eva.

Lake Eva trail will need to be reconstructed before additional guided use is permitted.

Lake Eva, Rodman Bay

Use Area - 04-04A



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 04-04B

Kelp Bay (Northeast Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
9	234	1,053	234
<u>Description</u> Located on the northern end of Baranof Island, this use area extends from east of the Lake Eva Trail, to south of Takatz Bay including Catherine Island, smaller islands in the vicinity of Catherine Island, and the islands within Kelp Bay. A Special Designation Area, Glacial River Wild River, is located within this use area. Access to shoreline is dictated by weather conditions particularly along Peril Strait and Chatham Strait. Easily accessible shoreline is located in Hanus Bay, Cosmos Cove, Kasnyku Bay, Takatz Bay, and the large bay complex of Kelp Bay. It is a scenic area. Glacier River is an eligible Wild River.			
LUDs	Old-growth Habitat, Semi-Remote Recreation, Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, Timber Production, Modified Landscape, and Wild River		
ROS	Roaded Modified, Primitive, Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-motorized) and Rural		
National Forest Shoreline Miles	157 miles		
National Forest Shoreline Acres	29,867 acres		
Communities	None		
Alaska Coastal Management Act	Sitka District Coastal Management Program		
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u>			
Administrative Cabins	Catherine Island, at Hanus Bay		
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u>			
A year round hatchery operated by NSRAA is located at Hidden Falls. State select land is located at the head of Takatz Bay and surrounds Takatz Lake.			
<u>Recreation Use</u>			
Area Attractions	Scenic views, beach hiking, spawning salmon, and protected anchorage		
Commercial Use	An outfitter/guide operates a tent camp on National Forest System uplands adjacent to The Basin during the summer months. There is also brown bear hunting, camping, freshwater fishing, hiking, sightseeing, and kayaking.		
Non-commercial Use	Freshwater fishing, hiking, and hunting		
Use Patterns	This area receives some use by residents of Angoon, Sitka, and Warm Springs. Due to its proximity to major marine travel routes, a number of unguided transient boaters also use this area. There is also commercial fishing; boat and land based commercial outfitter/guide use; and recreational boaters.		
Primary Use Areas	Kelp Bay, Catherine Island, and Hidden Falls		
Areas of Concern	Glacial River is a recommended Wild River.		

Use Area 04-04B

Kelp Bay (Northeast Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

In this use area, 248 bald eagle nests have been mapped.

Fisheries

Thirty-four Class I streams have been mapped with seven streams identified as having high freshwater fishing values. Clear and Bourbon Creeks flow into Kelp Bay and are popular fish streams with commercial and non-commercial users. Both streams are good producers of Dolly Varden char and pink salmon.

Botany

Numerous invasive weed species are found near the salmon hatchery at Hidden Falls. One botanical survey was completed covering about 0.25 miles of shoreline. No rare plants were found.

Cultural/Heritage

Twenty-eight surveys covering 73.5 miles have been completed in this area, with one historic and 15 prehistoric sites identified.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

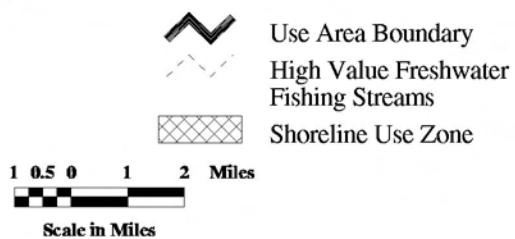
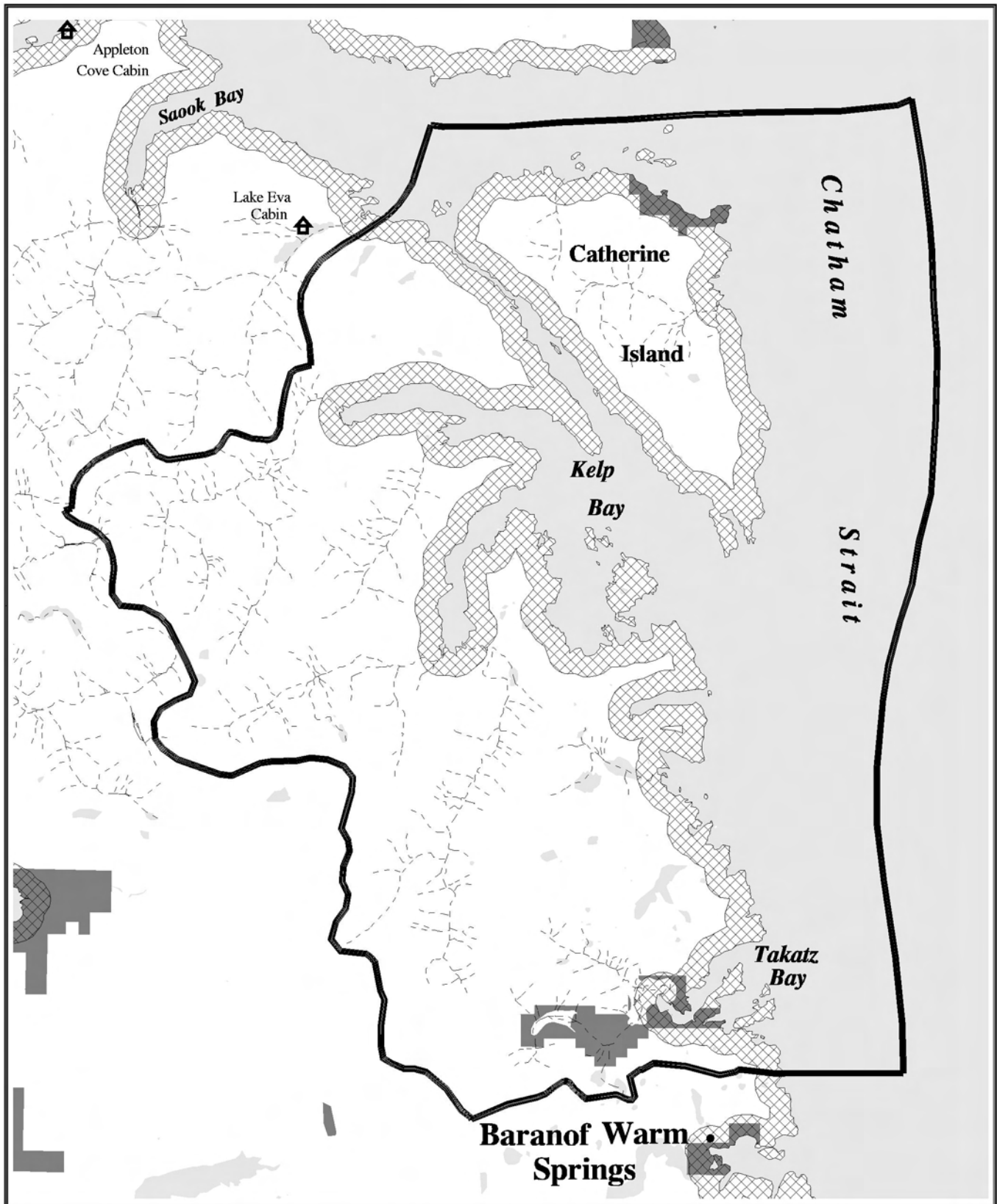
	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	30	184	21
<i>Enclaves</i>	Hanus Bay		
	Portage Arm		
<i>15% Areas</i>	Bourbon Creek Road		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Noxious weed treatment will be included in the forest noxious weed program.

Kelp Bay
Use Area - 04-04B



Use Area 04-04C

Baranof Warm Springs (East Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
3	78	351	78
<u>Description</u> <p>This Use Area is located on the eastside of Baranof Island extending from just south of Takatz Bay to just south of Warm Springs Bay. Access to small reaches of shoreline along Chatham Strait is dictated by weather conditions. The only protected shoreline within this use area is Warm Springs Bay.</p> <p>LUDs Remote Recreation and Semi-remote Recreation</p> <p>ROS Primitive and Semi-Primitive (motorized and non-motorized)</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 10 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 2,679 acres</p> <p>Communities The small community of Baranof lies within this use area.</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Sitka District Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins A Forest Service public recreation cabin is located on the south shore, near the west end of Baranof Lake. However, this cabin is further than a mile inland from the saltwater shoreline.</p> <p>Trail A trail that originates on state land goes to Sadie Lake. Currently, the trail receives no maintenance.</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>The state of Alaska owns a dock at Warm Springs Bay. A board walk trail located on municipal and state select land runs from the state dock to the shore of Baranof Lake.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions The community of Baranof, Baranof Lake, Sadie Lake, hot springs and scenic views</p> <p>Commercial Use Guides who transit through this area offer activities such as brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, and hiking. The owner of a lodge located on private land on the south shore of Warm Springs Bay is permitted to take clients onto surrounding National Forest System uplands for activities such as hiking and freshwater fishing.</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Warm Springs Bay is a popular anchorage for many transient boats and much of the non-guided use within the use area is by transient visitors.</p> <p>Use Patterns Commercial fishing and land and boat based outfitter/guide use</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Warm Springs Bay</p>			

Use Area 04-04C

Baranof Warm Springs (East Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

<i>Subsistence</i>	There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.
<i>Wildlife</i>	Bald eagle nests are presumed to occur in numbers at least equal to surveyed areas to the north.
<i>Fisheries</i>	Two Class I streams have been mapped in the area, but no high value streams were identified. The lake system is not anadromous, but supports populations of cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden char.
<i>Botany</i>	Two surveys were completed within Warm Springs Bay with no rare or sensitive plants identified.
<i>Cultural/Heritage</i>	One survey covering 0.5 miles has been completed with one site identified.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

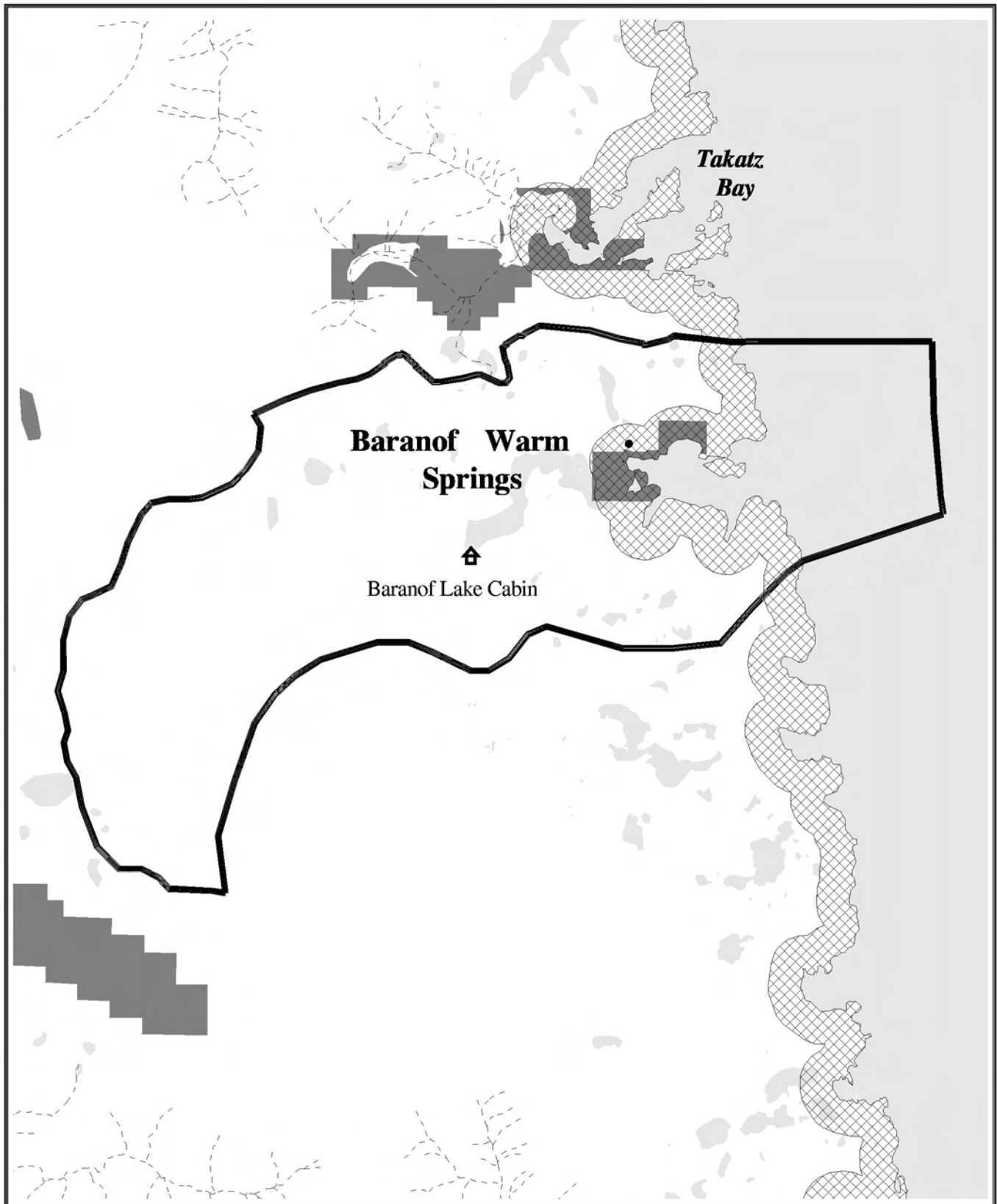
	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	5	38	6
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Baranof Warm Springs

Use Area - 04-04C



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR



Use Area 04-05

Southwest Admiralty – Admiralty National Monument

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	156	702	156
<p><u>Description</u></p> <p>This use area is on Admiralty National Monument and part of the Kootznoowoo Wilderness located in the southwest portion of the island extending from Hood Bay south to Pt. Gardner.</p> <p>LUDs Wilderness Monument</p> <p>ROS Primitive and Semi-Primitive Non motorized and Semi-Primitive Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 101 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 24,555 acres</p> <p>Communities The community of Angoon has a population of about 750 people and is located at to the north of the Use Area.</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act The Angoon Coastal Management Plan has Areas Meriting Special Attention (AMSAs) in Hood, Whitewater and Chaik Bays. Keys components of the Enforceable Policies for these AMSAs are (1) Maintaining or enhancing subsistence resource productivity and ensuring access to those resources; (2) Balancing recreational uses with the subsistence economy and culture; (3) Encouraging the involvement of local residents in the development of tourism related services and businesses. These bays receive use from the people of Angoon with Hood Bay receiving the most use due to its proximity to Angoon.</p>			
<p><u>Forest Service Facilities</u></p> <p>None</p>			
<p><u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u></p> <p>Private land is located on the north side of Hood Bay, Chaik Bay near Village Point, and Whitewater Bay at Neltushkin.</p>			
<p><u>Recreation Use</u></p> <p>Area Attractions This subunit has several large bays and estuaries. Large creeks and good beaches with access are the primary attractions. Sand Point in Whitewater Bay has a very good beach and open stand of timber. The protected “lagoons” or “salt chucks” in Whitewater and Wilson Cove offer different experiences than many other points on Admiralty Island.</p> <p>Commercial Use Freshwater fishing occurs in major streams that empty into the bays. Brown bear hunting is a popular activity. These bays also receive use from outfitter/guides who do short beach-walking excursions.</p> <p>Non-commercial Use The residents of Angoon use this area extensively for hunting, berry picking, beach walking, fishing, and firewood cutting.</p> <p>Use Patterns Most of the commercial use is of short duration with little, if any, overnight camping.</p>			

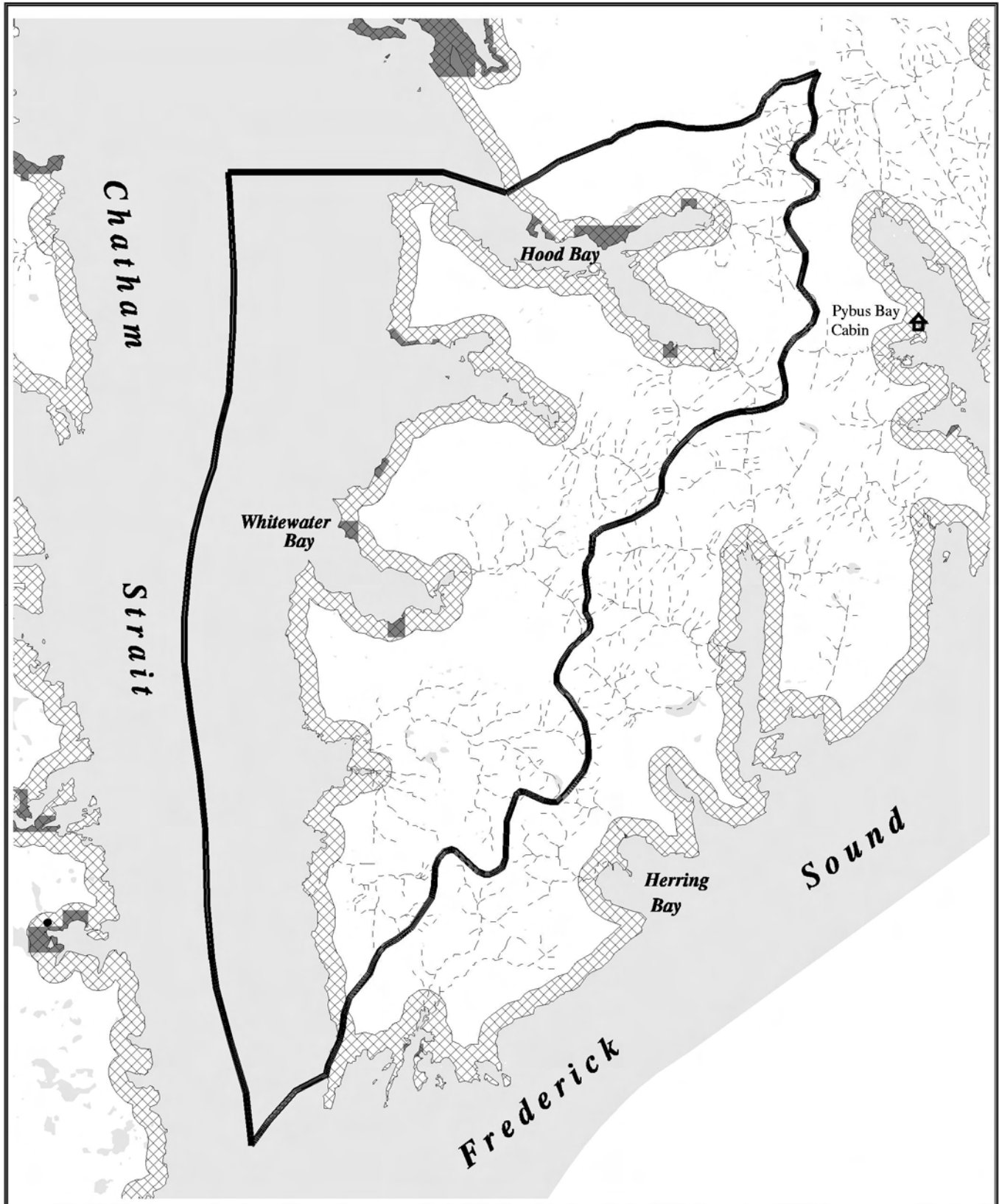
Use Area 04-05

Southwest Admiralty – Admiralty National Monument

Primary Use Areas	Hood and Chaik Bays receive more use due to their proximity to Angoon and the Whaler’s Cove Lodge.																			
<u>Management/Resource Considerations</u>																				
Subsistence	There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.																			
Wildlife	In this use area, 106 bald eagle nests have been mapped.																			
Fisheries	In this use area, 41 Class I streams have been mapped, with nine streams of high fishing value. All are permitted for guided sport fishing activities for cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden char, and pink salmon. Clients typically practice catch and release. Two streams with high fishing values are located at the head of each bay. Chaik Bay, located approximately 20 miles south of the village of Angoon, received the majority of use. There is one high value fishing stream at the head of the arm of Chaik Bay. The stream passes through a very large meadow and inter-tidal grass flat and supports abundant runs of pink salmon and Dolly Varden char. One stream was identified with high fishing values; it empties into a salt chuck at the head of the bay and supports populations of pink, chum, and coho salmon and Dolly Varden char. Watershed restoration efforts were initiated in 1999 to restore the riparian areas and maintain stream productivity.																			
Botany	No rare or sensitive plants were identified from three surveys.																			
Cultural/Heritage	Two historic and 21 prehistoric sites have been identified from 35 surveys that covered 14 miles.																			
<u>Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative</u>																				
<table><tr><td></td><td colspan="3">Modified Alt. 4</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</td><td>Spr</td><td>Sum</td><td>Fall</td></tr><tr><td>35</td><td>75</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>Enclaves</td><td colspan="3">None</td></tr><tr><td>15% Areas</td><td colspan="3">None</td></tr></table>			Modified Alt. 4			Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall	35	75	40	Enclaves	None			15% Areas	None		
	Modified Alt. 4																			
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall																	
	35	75	40																	
Enclaves	None																			
15% Areas	None																			
<u>Mitigation</u>																				
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.																				

Southwest Admiralty

Use Area - 04-05



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles



Use Area 04-06A

Pybus Bay – Admiralty National Monument

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
3	78	351	78
<u>Description</u> <p>This Use Area is on Admiralty National Monument and part of the Kootznoowoo Wilderness located in the southeast portion of the island including Pybus Bay and the Brothers Islands.</p> <p>LUDs Wilderness Monument</p> <p>ROS Primitive</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 124 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 18,219 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Special Use cabin in Pybus Bay</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Several private parcels of land are located in Cannery Cove within Pybus Bay.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Pybus Bay is one of the largest bays on Admiralty Island. Its numerous coves and islands provide good protection from the weather, particularly after the long crossing of Frederick Sound. Cannery Cove is the most popular anchorage in the bay. The area has large tide flats that make it popular for bear hunting, wildlife viewing, sightseeing, and whale watching. The Brothers Islands have several nice beaches and a sea lion rookery. Boats also use the area between West Brother Island and the adjacent small island to the southwest for an anchorage.</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, wildlife viewing, sightseeing, and beachcombing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use The residents of Kake and Petersburg use this area for bear and deer hunting, sightseeing, beachcombing, berry picking, and wildlife viewing.</p> <p>Use Patterns The presence of a lodge increases use on the saltwater. Much of the use of the Brothers Islands is associated with offshore sea lion viewing. The islands are receiving increased day and camping use, although camping is limited because of the lack of fresh water.</p>			

Use Area 04-06A

Pybus Bay – Admiralty National Monument

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

Kake is the primary subsistence community that uses this area. An average of four subsistence permits have been returned for use at False Point Pybus. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.

Wildlife

NMFS has identified three Steller sea lion haul-outs in this use area. In this use area, 105 bald eagle nests are mapped.

Fisheries

In this use area, 20 Class I streams have been mapped, of which six streams have high fishing values. The creek in Donkey Bay supports pink, chum, and coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden char.

Botany

There are no known sensitive plants. This area has not received intensive surveys.

Cultural/Heritage

Four historic and four prehistoric sites have been identified from 14 surveys that covered 8.5 miles.

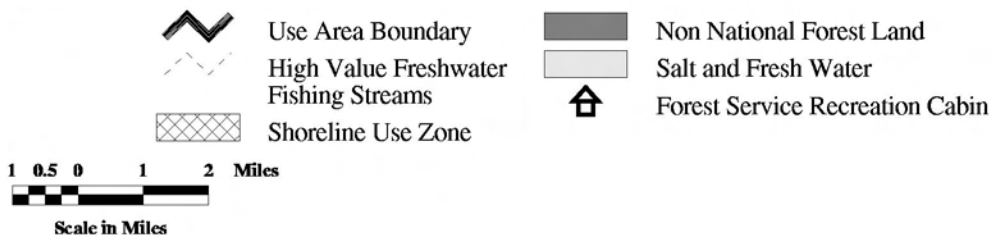
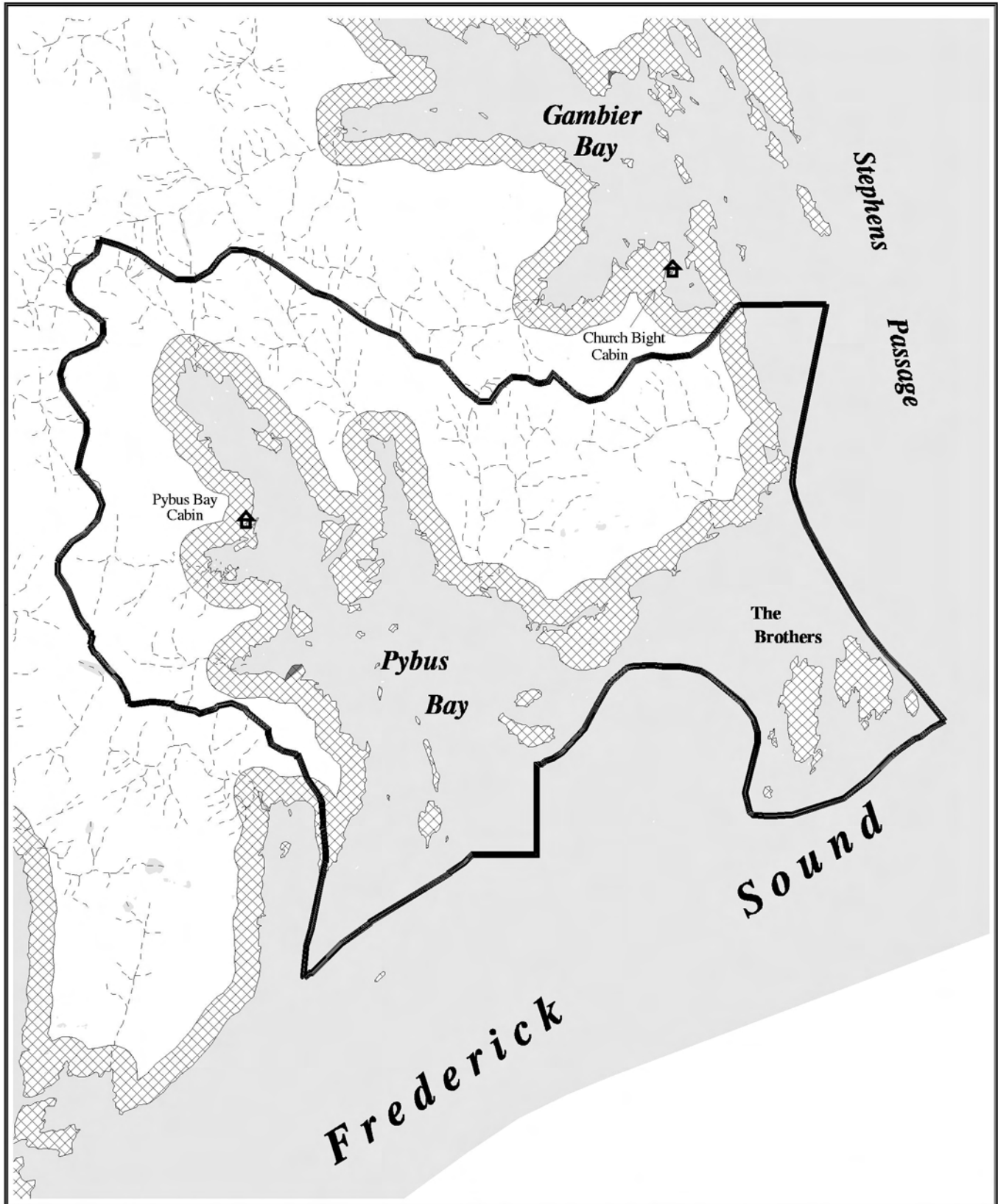
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	20	100	15
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Pybus Bay
Use Area - 04-06A



Use Area 04-06B

Eliza Harbor – Admiralty National Monument

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
3	78	351	78
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area is on Admiralty National Monument and part of the Kootznoowoo Wilderness. This area is located in the southeast portion of the island and includes one large bay, Eliza Harbor, and several small bays such as Little Pybus Bay, Chapin Bay, Herring Bay, Murder Cove, and Surprise Harbor.</p> <p>LUDs Wilderness Monument</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 100 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 19,693 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>There is one private parcel of land and an associated lodge in Tyee.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Deepwater Point on the east side of Woewodski Harbor has a campsite that is used on occasion and it offers an excellent view across Frederick Sound. Chapin Bay and Eliza Harbor provide good anchorages.</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, beachcombing, sightseeing, and wildlife viewing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Residents from Kake and Petersburg use the area for deer hunting, berry picking, sightseeing, beachcombing, and wildlife viewing.</p> <p>Use Patterns Most of the use is boat based.</p>			

Use Area 04-06B

Eliza Harbor – Admiralty National Monument

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.

Wildlife

NMFS identified two Steller sea lion haul outs in this use area. In this use area, 56 bald eagle nests have been mapped.

Fisheries

In this use area, 36 Class I streams have been mapped, of which, 11 were identified with high fishing value. These streams support populations of pink, chum, and coho salmon, steelhead trout, and Dolly Varden char. Guided use levels are low because of the remote nature of the area from any population center and the southeast exposure of the coastline to prevailing winds and storms.

Botany

Poa laxiflora was identified from one survey that covered 0.25 miles of shoreline.

Cultural/Heritage

Eight prehistoric sites were identified from 17 surveys that covered 5.75 miles.

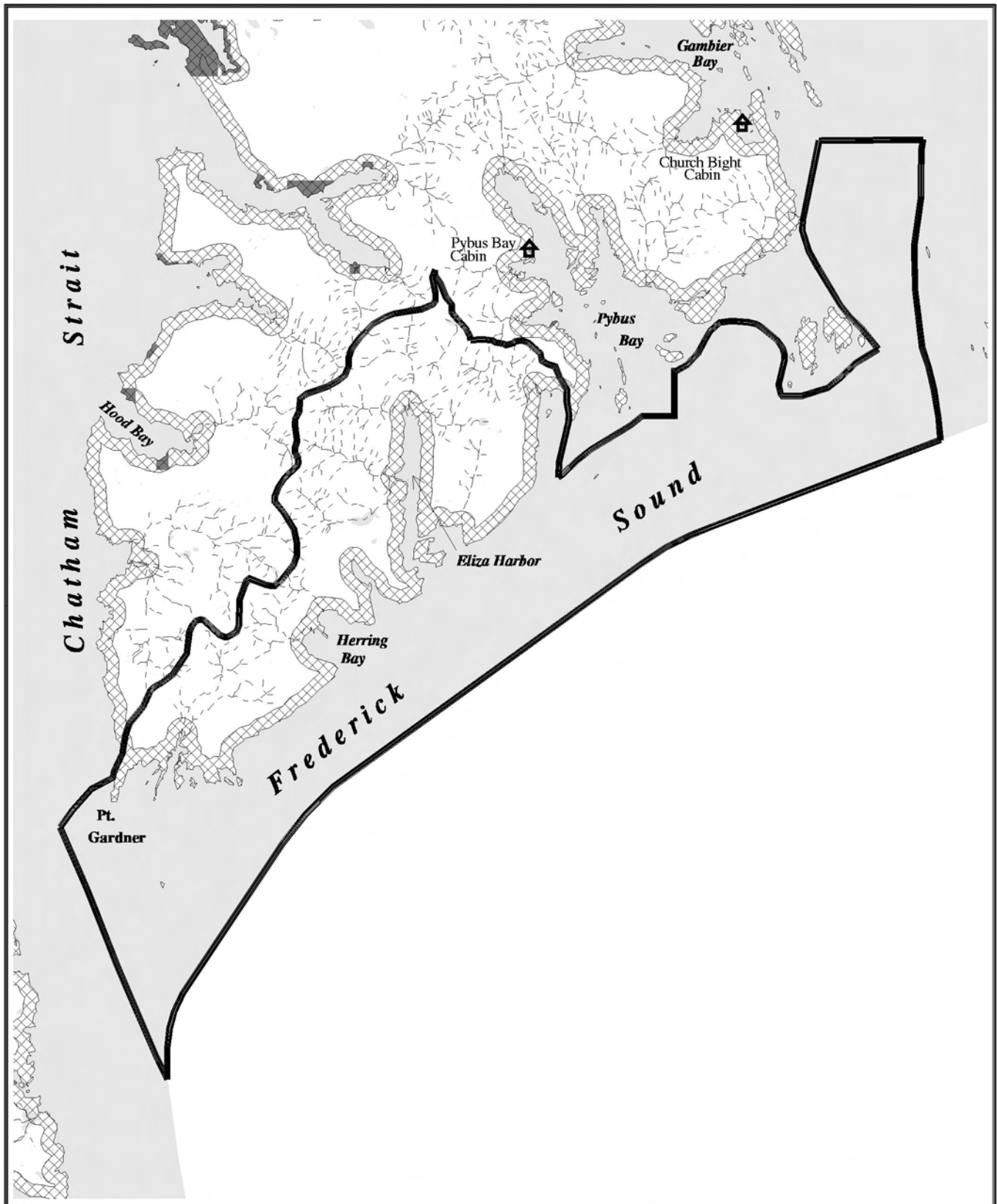
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	25	50	15
Enclaves	None		
15% Areas	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Eliza Harbor
Use Area - 04-06B



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin

10.50 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 04-07

Gambier Bay – Admiralty National Monument

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	156	702	156
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area is on Admiralty National Monument and part of the Kootznoowoo Wilderness. Located in the south central portion of the island, it extends from just south of Tiedeman Island farther south to Gambier Bay. The two primary bays in this Use Area are Mole Harbor and Gambier Bay.</p> <p>LUDs Special Interest, Wilderness Monument, Wilderness Monument Research Natural Area, and Wilderness Monument Wild River</p> <p>ROS Primitive and Semi-Primitive Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 133 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 24,858 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Church Bight</p> <p>Shelters Mole Harbor</p> <p>Trails A three-mile trail goes from the shelter at Mole Harbor to Lake Alexander.</p> <p>Special Uses One cabin in Gambier Bay and one tent platform in Seymour Canal</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>A small private parcel of land with a cabin is located in Mole Harbor and additional private land is located on the north side of Gambier Bay.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Gambier Bay is the largest bay in this area and provides excellent anchorages and protection from rough weather. Pleasant Bay is a very small bay that is also very protected and provides probably the best anchorage between Gambier Bay and Windfall Harbor. The trail at Mole Harbor is the only Forest Service trail on the entire southeast side of the island.</p> <p>Commercial Use Bear hunting, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, fishing, and kayaking</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Residents of Petersburg use this area for bear and deer hunting, berry picking, and fishing.</p> <p>Use Patterns The use that occurs takes place primarily near the developed facilities, private land, and the special use permit cabin and tent platform.</p>			

Use Area 04-07

Gambier Bay – Admiralty National Monument

Management/Resource Considerations

<i>Subsistence</i>	No restriction to any subsistence resource use is expected to result from this project.
<i>Wildlife</i>	In this use area, 90 bald eagle nests are mapped.
<i>Fisheries</i>	In this use area, 45 Class I streams have been mapped. Within Mole Harbor, Pleasant Bay, and Gambier Bay, six streams were identified with high fishing value. The majority of use occurred in Mole River. Pleasant Bay Creek has been used by ADF&G as a steelhead index stream.
<i>Botany</i>	Seven surveys covering 1.25 miles did not identify any rare or sensitive plants.
<i>Cultural/Heritage</i>	Thirty-eight surveys covering 16 miles revealed 18 sites within this use area; nine historic and nine prehistoric.

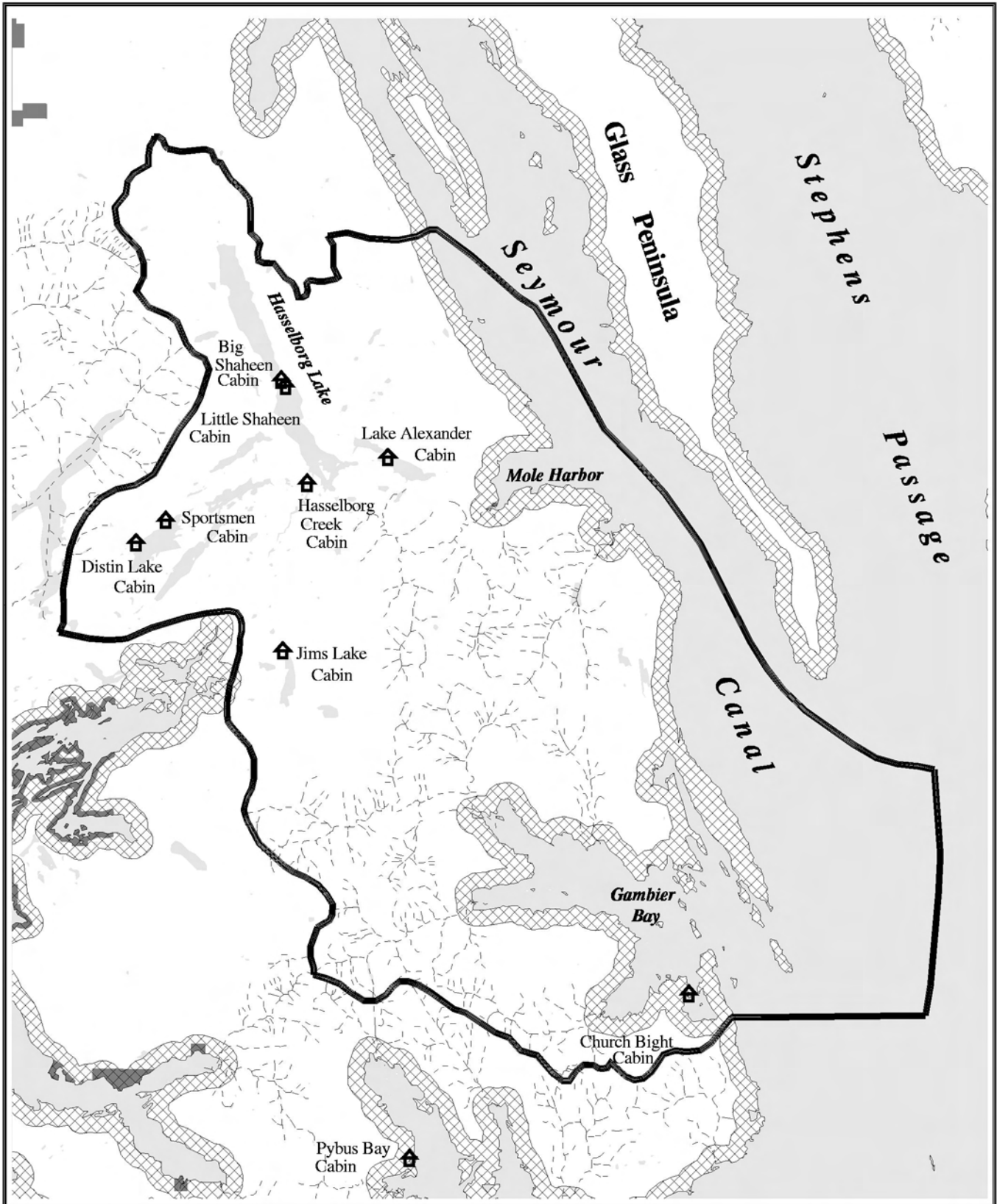
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	30	150	30
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Gambier Bay
Use Area - 04-07



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 04-08

Northeast Admiralty – Admiralty National Monument

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
28	728	3,276	728
<u>Description</u> <p>This Use Area extends from Midway Point on Admiralty Island's eastern Glass Peninsula north to Point Retreat on the Mansfield Peninsula. Due to its proximity to Juneau, the Use Area receives considerable use. The primary bays in this Use Area are Barlow Cove, Young Bay, Oliver Inlet, and Doty Cove.</p> <p>LUDs Experimental Forest, Wilderness Monument, and Semi-Remote Recreation</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Roaded Natural, and Semi-Primitive Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 135 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 34,497 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Admiralty Cove</p> <p>Special Use Permit Cabins Sixteen special use permit cabins are located within this use area.</p> <p>Trails Admiralty Cove to Young Lake</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Private land is located on a portion of the unnamed island in Admiralty Cove and just south of Bear Creek. All of Horse and Colt Islands are in private ownership. There is a dock and parking area in Young Bay used by the Greens Creek Mine. The dock is permitted via a State tidelands permit and the parking lot is on private land. Oliver Inlet State Marine Park includes a small boat tram and a public recreation cabin.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Barlow Cove and Oliver Inlet are the best anchorages. Admiralty Cove has a large tidal meadow and stream providing wildlife viewing and fishing.</p> <p>Commercial Use There is very little commercial use of this area, possibly because there are not many places with good anchorages for larger boats. Commercial use is not allowed within one mile of Admiralty Cove because of its proximity to the public recreation cabin there.</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Hunting, berry picking, beachcombing, firewood cutting, fishing, and wildlife viewing</p>			

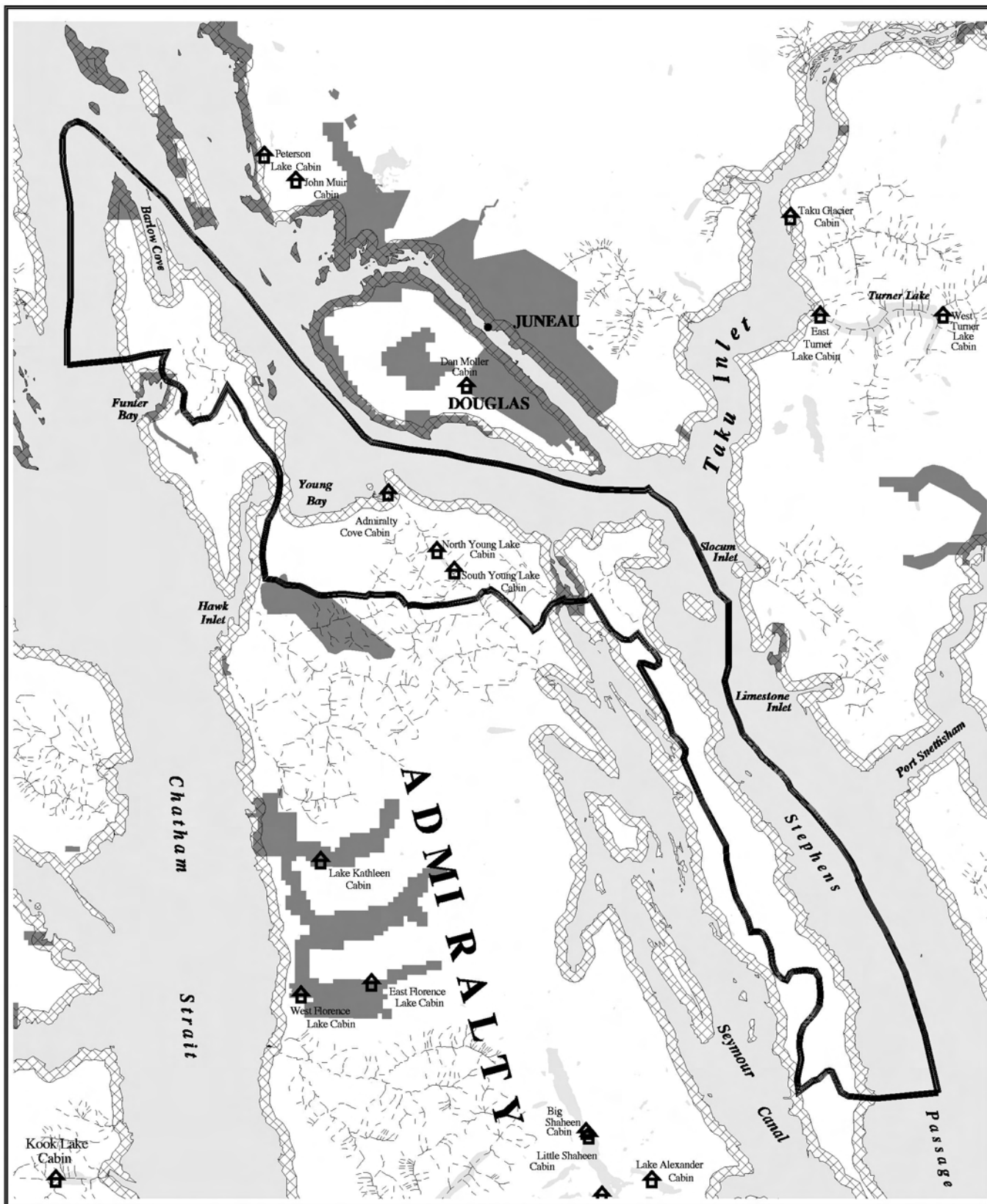
Use Area 04-08

Northeast Admiralty – Admiralty National Monument

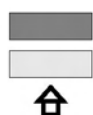
Use Patterns	This area receives much of its use from Juneau and Petersburg. Boaters and kayakers use it for day trips and overnight excursions. The high number of special use permit cabins (16) in this Use Area provides a focal point for the recreation use. There are numerous places to go ashore and areas away from the developed sites also receive use. In addition, there are many private cabins on Horse and Colt Islands and people staying in these cabins recreate in this area as well.		
<u>Management/Resource Considerations</u>			
Subsistence	Subsistence catches of salmon have been reported at Admiralty and Bear Creeks. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.		
Wildlife	In this use area, 187 bald eagle nests have been mapped.		
Fisheries	In this use area, 38 Class I streams have been mapped, three of which are identified with high fishing values. Admiralty Creek, in Young Bay, is an important Juneau sport fishery for spring steelhead, Dolly Varden char, and fall coho. The site is also popular because of the presence of a public use cabin. For these reasons, requests for guided sport fishing at Admiralty Creek historically have been denied.		
Botany	There are no known sensitive plants. This area has not received intensive surveys.		
Cultural/Heritage	In this use area, 13 surveys covering 10.5 miles have identified five sites, two historic and three prehistoric.		
<u>Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative</u>			
		Modified Alt. 4	
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	40	150	40
Enclaves	Cordwood Creek		
	Fowler Creek		
15% Areas	None		
<u>Mitigation</u>			
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.			
Outfitter/guide use is prohibited within one mile of Admiralty Cove cabin.			

Northeast Admiralty

Use Area - 04-08



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin



USE AREA
LOCATOR

10.50 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles

Use Area 04-09

Seymour Canal – Admiralty National Monument

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
10	260	1,170	260
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area encompasses much of the eastern shoreline along Seymour Canal. The area is a relatively short flight from Juneau and receives local use. There are several bays but they do not have many good anchorages because of the large tidal flats and exposure.</p> <p>LUDs Wilderness Monument and Wild River</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 174 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 33,597 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Special Use Permit Cabins There are 13 Forest Service special use permit cabins and one tent platform in this use area.</p> <p>Shelter Forest Service shelter at Windfall Harbor</p> <p>Trail/Bear Viewing One-mile trail leading to a bear viewing tower at Pack Creek</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Oliver Inlet State Marine Park includes a small boat tram and a public recreation cabin.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions The northern portion of the area has relatively protected water, with many small islands and coves and scenery.</p> <p>Commercial Use Bear hunting</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Kayaking, hunting, berry picking, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, and firewood cutting</p> <p>Use Patterns The area is a relatively short flight from Juneau. It receives local use from the residents of Petersburg and Juneau. Kayakers heading from Oliver Inlet to Pack Creek often stop and camp in the northern end of the Use Area. Special Use permit cabins and tent platforms are a focal point for use, particularly during the fall deer-hunting season. In the fall, hunting parties will set up multi-day camps with tents and tarps.</p> <p>Areas of Concern The King Salmon River is a recommended Wild River.</p>			

Use Area 04-09

Seymour Canal – Admiralty National Monument

Management/Resource Considerations

<i>Subsistence</i>	There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.
<i>Wildlife</i>	In this use area, 245 bald eagle nests have been mapped.
<i>Fisheries</i>	In this use area, 46 Class I streams have been mapped, two of which were identified as having high fishing values. Although the King Salmon River is a relatively productive system supporting large populations of pink and coho salmon, and Dolly Varden char, it is difficult to access because of an extensive tide flat.
<i>Botany</i>	No rare or sensitive plants were found during six surveys that covered 0.75 mile.
<i>Cultural/Heritage</i>	Six prehistoric sites have been identified from 16 surveys that covered 10.5 miles.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	30	200	30
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

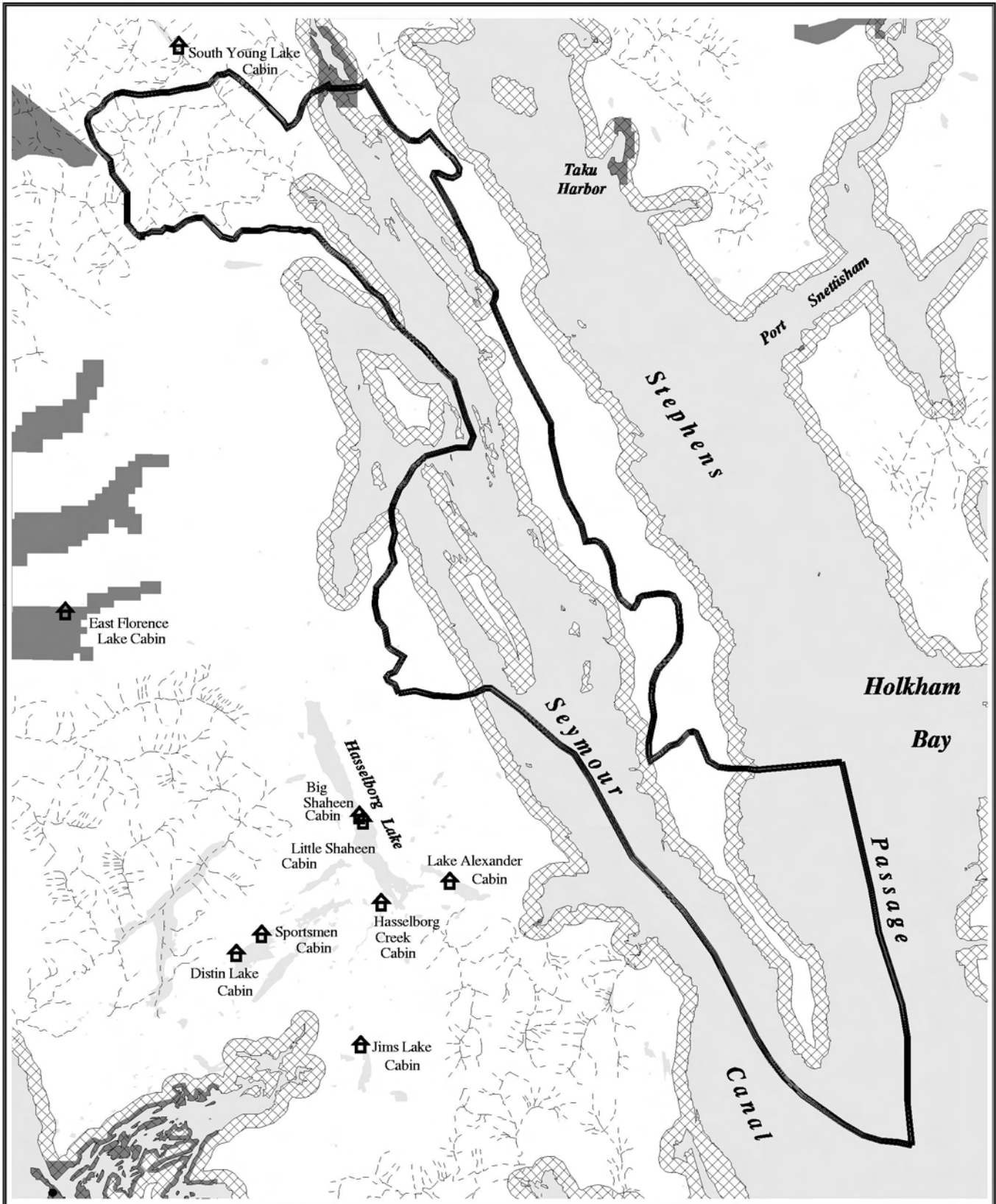
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Guided fishing is not permitted in all creeks flowing into Windfall Harbor, Pack Creek, and Swan Cove. Bear viewing is the recreation emphasis in these areas.

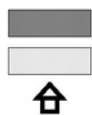
No guided fishing is allowed upstream of the grass flats on King Salmon River in July to protect king salmon spawning habitat.

Seymour Canal

Use Area - 04-09



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin

10.50 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles



Use Area 04-10A

Greens Creek – Admiralty National Monument

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
4	104	468	104
<u>Description</u> This use area includes the shoreline from Greens Creek to Wheeler Creek along Chatham Strait. LUDs Wilderness Monument and Non-Wilderness Monument ROS Primitive, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, Semi-Primitive Motorized National Forest Shoreline Miles 9 miles National Forest Shoreline Acres 2,000 acres Communities None			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> Special Uses Cabins There is a Special Uses cabin at Wheeler Creek. Communication Site Point Marsden			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> There are several private parcels in Wheeler Creek.			
<u>Recreation Use</u> Area Attractions Greens and Wheeler Creeks are large creeks that are readily accessible from Juneau. Commercial Use Fishing Non-commercial Use Brown bear and deer hunting, berry picking, firewood cutting, and wildlife viewing Use Patterns The commercial component of the use is fly-in fishing of several hours duration. On some days, two groups will use the site, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Often, this use is connected to cruise ship activity in Juneau. Private landowners at Wheeler Creek spend several days to several weeks at their cabins and participate in a variety of activities. Wheeled planes have been observed on the beach at Wheeler Creek.			

Use Area 04-10A

Greens Creek – Admiralty National Monument

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions to subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

In this use area, 11 bald eagle nests have been mapped.

Fisheries

In this use area, two Class I streams have been mapped and identified as high value fishing streams. Both streams are popular guided sport fishing destinations because of their high fisheries value and close proximity to Juneau. Most fish caught in both streams are Dolly Varden char and pink salmon; it has been customary for clients to practice catch and release. The Forest Plan lists Wheeler Creek king salmon as sensitive because of its island location and small population size; the Forest Plan calls for the protection and maintenance of the king salmon population. There have been no reported king salmon caught through guided sport fishing.

Botany

There are no known sensitive plants. This area has not received intensive surveys.

Cultural/Heritage

Two historic and two prehistoric sites were identified from two surveys that covered 3.25 miles.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

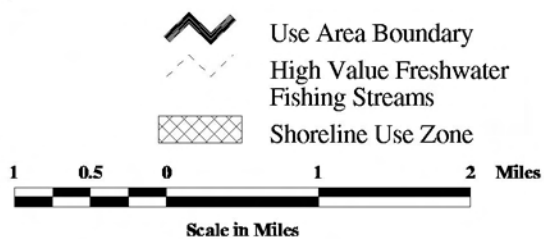
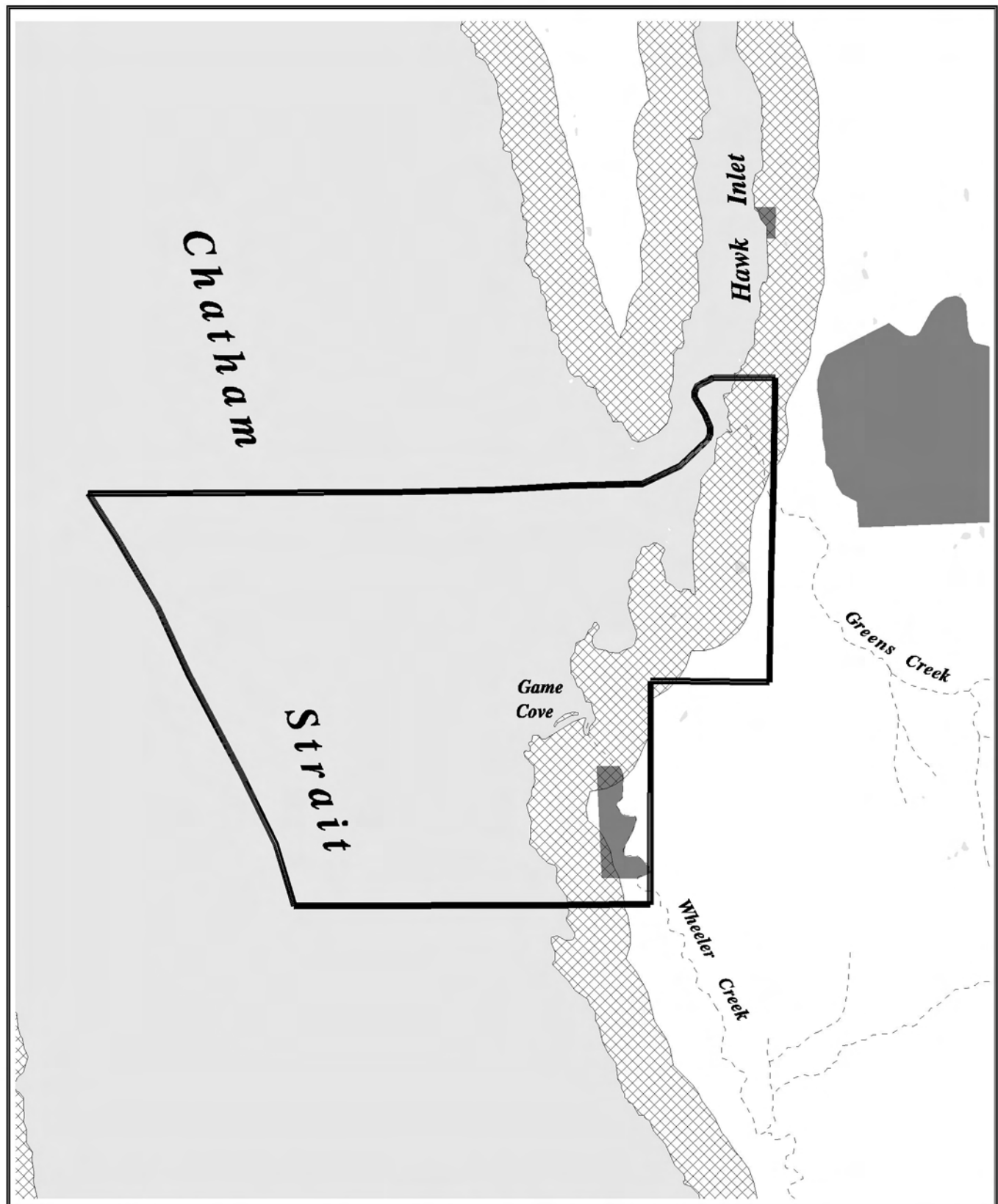
	Modified Alt. 4		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	15	100	25
Enclaves	None		
15% Areas	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Guided fishing is not allowed in the lower reaches of Wheeler Creek in July to avoid affecting spawning king salmon.

Greens Creek
Use Area - 04-10A



- Non National Forest Land
- Salt and Fresh Water
- Forest Service Recreation Cabin



Use Area 04-10B

Northwest Admiralty – Admiralty National Monument

Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
7	182	819	182
Description This use area is on the northwest coast of Admiralty Island and extends from Funter Bay south to Mitchell Bay.			
LUDs	Semi-Remote Recreation, Wilderness National Monument, and Non-Wilderness National Monument		
ROS	Primitive, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized		
National Forest Shoreline Miles	73 miles		
National Forest Shoreline Acres	21,055 acres		
Communities	Cube Cove		
Forest Service Facilities			
Special Uses Cabins	Hawk Inlet		
Non-National Forest System Lands There is private land in Funter Bay, Hawk Inlet, and Cube Cove. Funter Bay has a State Marine Park on the south shore.			
Recreation Use			
Area Attractions	Scenic views		
Commercial Use	Brown bear hunting, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, and fishing		
Non-commercial Use	Brown bear and deer hunting, berry picking, firewood cutting, beachcombing, wildlife viewing, and fishing		
Use Patterns	Much of the shoreline provides poor anchorages except in the major bays. Juneau primarily uses the northern portion of this use area while the community at Cube Cove primarily uses the area from Hawk Inlet south to Fishery Creek. The community of Angoon uses this area extensively. The Greens Creek Mine is located in Hawk Inlet and the mine’s plan of operations does not allow workers to access the shoreline for recreation purposes.		

Use Area 04-10B

Northwest Admiralty – Admiralty National Monument

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

In this use area, there are 137 mapped bald eagle nests.

Fisheries

In this use area, 16 Class I streams have been mapped. There are few sheltered streams accessible by plane or boat. Fishery and Thayer Creeks both support pink and chum salmon populations and were identified with high fishing values. Although both systems have large watersheds, these streams offer marginal fishing opportunities because of anadromous fish barriers a short distance from saltwater. These barriers greatly limit the potential fishing opportunity by reducing available salmon spawning and rearing habitat.

Botany

Poa macrocalyx was found along a rocky bluff during one survey that covered 0.25 mile of shoreline.

Cultural/Heritage

Two historic sites and one prehistoric site were identified within this use area from four surveys that covered 2.5 miles.

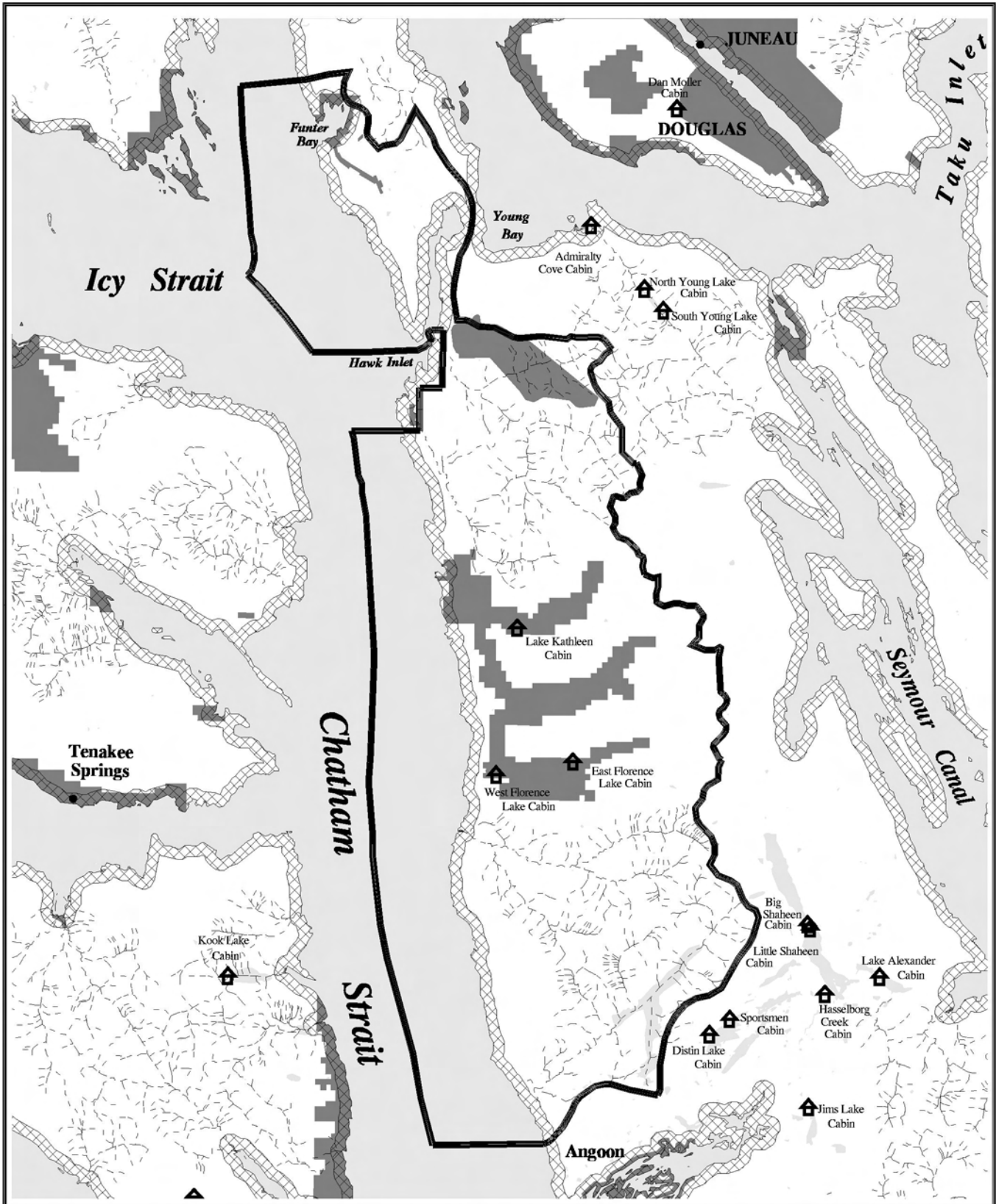
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative




	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	30	100	25
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		




Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Northwest Admiralty Use Area - 04-10B



-  Use Area Boundary
-  High Value Freshwater Fishing Streams
-  Shoreline Use Zone

-  Non National Forest Land
-  Salt and Fresh Water
-  Forest Service Recreation Cabin



10.50 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles

USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 04-11

Hoonah Area (Northwest Chichagof) – Hoonah Ranger District

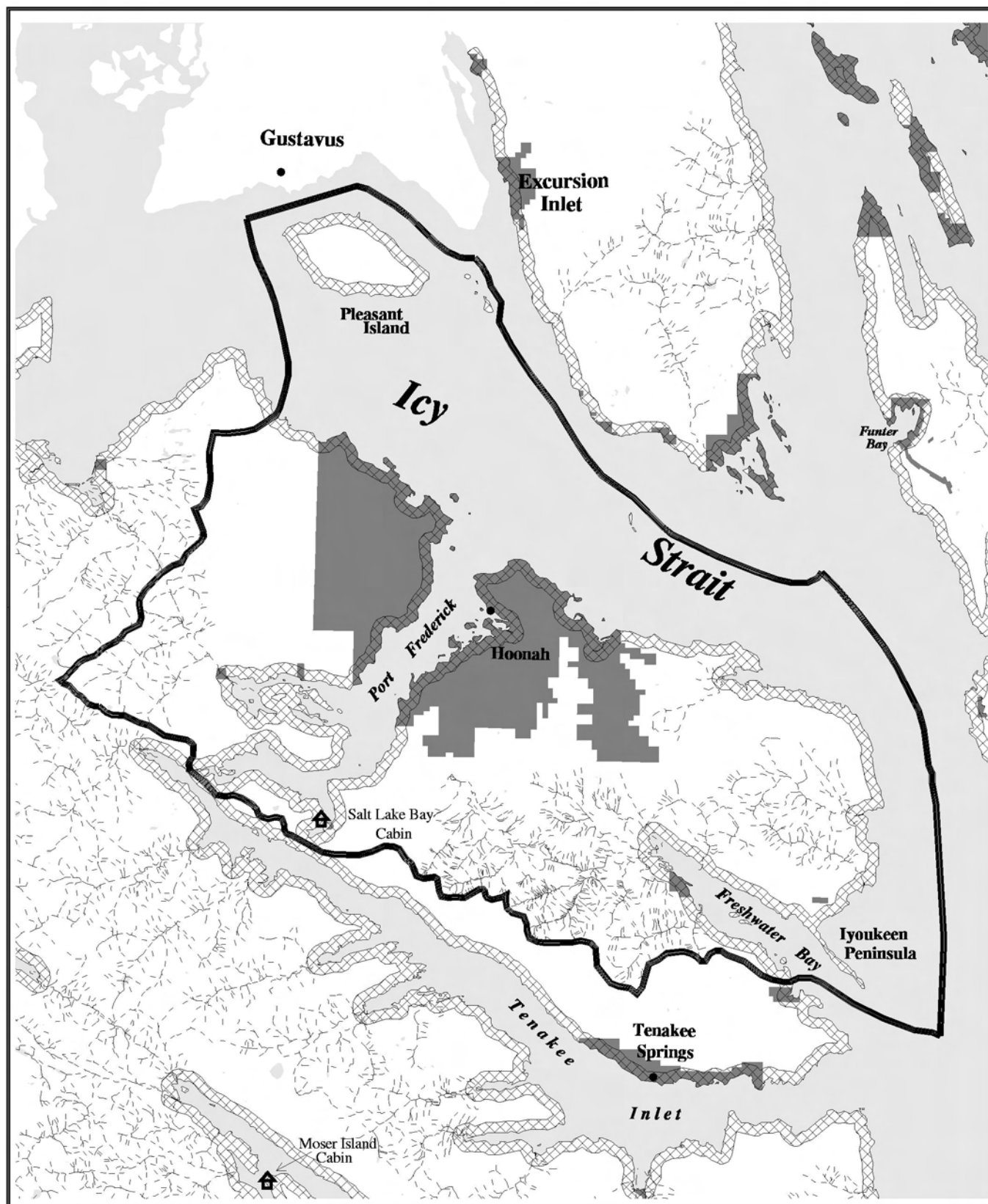
<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
14	364	1,638	364
<u>Description</u> <p>This Use Area encompasses the north and northeast portion of Chichagof Island from Chicken Creek east to Freshwater Bay. Icy Strait and Chatham Strait are the surrounding waterways to the north and northeast. Principal bays within Port Frederick include: Neka Bay, Eight Fathom Bight, and Salt Lake Bay. This area also includes Pleasant Island Wilderness, which receives the majority of commercial and non-commercial use from the community of Gustavus.</p> <p>LUDs Old Growth, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, Timber Production, and Wilderness</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Roaded Modified, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 185 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 40,377 acres</p> <p>Communities Hoonah has a population of approximately 900 people and is centrally located in the use area. Hoonah is serviced by a boat harbor, airport, and the Alaska Marine Highway system. Tourist and recreationists visit Hoonah for access to Port Frederick, Icy Strait and the forest road system.</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Hoonah Coastal Management Plan</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Salt Lake Bay</p> <p>Trails Wukuklook and Suntaheen</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>This use area includes a large area of Native Corporation lands in Port Frederick surrounding the community of Hoonah. The community of Whitestone Logging Company lies within Native Corporation lands adjacent to Hoonah. Private property is also situated along the mouth of Game Creek.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Anadromous fish streams, wildlife viewing, scenic remote areas, and access to shoreline areas by road and boat</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, camping, and sightseeing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Residents and visitors to the community of Hoonah are the primary users of this area. Port Frederick is an important recreation and subsistence area for residents of Hoonah.</p> <p>Use Patterns Commercial fishing; recreational boating and kayaking; boat-based outfitter/guides; boat-based subsistence use; and boat-based sport fishing are popular. The Hoonah forest road system (170 miles of drivable road) receives steady traffic from residents and visitors accessing the shoreline areas of northeastern Chichagof Island.</p>			

Use Area 04-11

Hoonah Area (Northwest Chichagof) – Hoonah Ranger District

Primary Use Areas	Chicken Creek, Pleasant Island, and Freshwater Bay are primary commercial use areas. Other popular areas include Port Frederick, Neka Bay, Salk Lake Bay, Eight Fathom Bight, False Bay, and Whitestone Harbor.			
Areas of Concern	Float homes occupying the primary anchorages in Freshwater Bay may restrict access to the national forest wheeled plane landing areas at Neka Bay.			
<u>Management/Resource Considerations</u>				
Subsistence	An average of two subsistence-fishing permits have been returned for use at Neka River and Seagull Creek. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users due to this project.			
Wildlife	One NMFS identified Steller sea lion haul out is located in this use area. In this use area, 420 bald eagle nests are mapped. All of this use area is within the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area for state and federal management of brown bears.			
Fisheries	The broad valleys found in the area provide for streams with abundant fish habitat and fishing opportunities. Seventy Class I streams have been mapped in the area, eight of which were identified with high fishing potential. Several streams are important fisheries for the people of Hoonah and some can be accessed through the road system.			
Botany	No rare or sensitive plants were identified in four surveys that covered 0.5 mile.			
Cultural/Heritage	In this use area, 21 historic and 15 prehistoric sites were identified in 41 surveys that covered 63.5 miles.			
<u>Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative</u>				
		Modified Alt. 4		
	Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
		55	328	55
	Enclaves	8-Fathom Dock Area		
		Salt Lake Bay Dock		
		Red Cliff Islands		
		Kennel Creek		
	15% Areas	Neka Bay-N. Bight		
		Neka Bay-S. Bight		
		Iyoukeen Peninsula		
<u>Mitigation</u>				
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.				
Eight Fathom Bight and Salt Bay docks are for Forest Service administrative use. Outfitter/guides may use these docks as permitted but they may not leave boats unattended or obstruct administrative use.				

Hoonah Area Use Area - 04-11



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin



USE AREA
LOCATOR

10.50 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles

Use Area 04-12

Tenakee Inlet (Southeast Chichagof) – Sitka/Hoonah Ranger Districts

Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
15	390	1,755	390
Description Encompassing central and eastern portions of Chichagof Island most of this use area is administered by the Sitka Ranger District with a small portion near Freshwater Bay administered by the Hoonah Ranger District. All of the uplands surrounding Tenakee Inlet from north of Pavlov Harbor to Pt Hayes are included. This use area also includes the following Special Designation areas in their entirety: Kadashan LUD II, Trap Bay LUD II, and Kadashan LUD II Wild River. Access to the shoreline areas of Chatham Strait is difficult and is dictated by weather conditions, however there are many miles of accessible shoreline in the following areas: Pavlof Harbor, Wachusetts Cove, and Basket, Long, Seal, Saltery, Crab, Kadashan, Corner, and Trap Bays.			
LUDs	Remote Recreation, Semi-Remote Recreation, Old-growth Habitat, LUD II, LUD II Scenic River, Scenic Viewshed, Modified Landscape, and Timber Production		
ROS	Primitive, Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, and Roded Modified		
National Forest Shoreline Miles	178 miles		
National Forest Shoreline Acres	45,117 acres		
Communities	The community of Tenakee Springs is located within this use area.		
Alaska Coastal Management Act	The area south of Tenakee Inlet is within the boundary of the Sitka District Coastal Management Program.		
Forest Service Facilities			
Public Recreation Cabins	Kook Lake, however this cabin is located more than a mile inland from the saltwater shoreline.		
Administrative Cabins	Trap Bay, Corner Bay boat dock and work center, Kadashan		
Shelters	Long Bay and Saltery Bay		
Trails	Little Basket Bay to Basket Lake		
Non-National Forest System Lands The Tenakee Trail is within the use area, however, only the eastern end is located on national forest lands with most of the trail located within the corporate limits of the City of Tenakee Springs. Two state of Alaska cabins are located in the Kadashan drainage, and a private cabin is located near the mouth of Crab Bay. Native Allotment parcels are located at Kadashan and The Portage. A large tract of Native Corporation land is located along much of the use area’s Chatham Strait shoreline with a small parcel of Native Corporation land at the head of Basket Bay. State select land is located at Pavlof Harbor.			

Use Area 04-12

Tenakee Inlet (Southeast Chichagof) – Sitka/Hoonah Ranger Districts

<u>Recreation Use</u>	
<i>Area Attractions</i>	Tenakee Hot Springs, Forest Service cabin and shelter, The Portage, Basket Bay, and Kadashan River
<i>Commercial Use</i>	Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, hiking, sightseeing
<i>Non-commercial Use</i>	Uplands surrounding Tenakee Inlet are important for their non-guided, recreational value to visitors and residents of Tenakee Springs, while the Chatham Strait shoreline has unguided recreational value to both the residents of Tenakee Springs and Angoon.
<i>Use Patterns</i>	Commercial trollers and crabbers, boat and land based outfitter/guides, and recreational boaters
<i>Primary Use Areas</i>	City of Tenakee Springs, Kadashan River, Basket Bay, Goose Flats, The Portage
<i>Areas of Concern</i>	Kadashan River is a recommended Scenic River. Also, potential for trespass on private land.
<u>Management/Resource Considerations</u>	
<i>Subsistence</i>	An annual average of 23 subsistence fishing permits have been returned for use at Kook Lake, Pavlof River, and Sitkoh Bay. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users as a result of this project.
<i>Wildlife</i>	One NMFS-identified Steller sea lion haul-out is located in this use area. There are 354 mapped bald eagle nests in this use area. The north shore of the use area from The Portage to East Point lies within the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area for state and federal management of brown bears.
<i>Fisheries</i>	In this use area, 97 Class I streams have been mapped and 16 high value fishing streams identified. Kook Lake supports a diminished return of sockeye salmon, and Pavlof Lake has a very small sockeye run. A cooperative sockeye stock assessment program, approved by the Federal Subsistence Board, was recently started at Kook Lake. All systems contain Dolly Varden char and coho, chum and pink salmon. The Kadashan River is the largest producer of coho salmon in this area.
<i>Botany</i>	No rare or sensitive plants were found during two botanical surveys conducted on 0.25 miles of shoreline.
<i>Cultural/Heritage</i>	A total of 49 surveys covering 128.75 miles have been completed in this use area, with 21 historic and 34 prehistoric sites identified.

Use Area 04-12

Tenakee Inlet (Southeast Chichagof) – Sitka/Hoonah Ranger Districts

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	51	137	52
<i>Enclaves</i>	Corner Bay Road		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

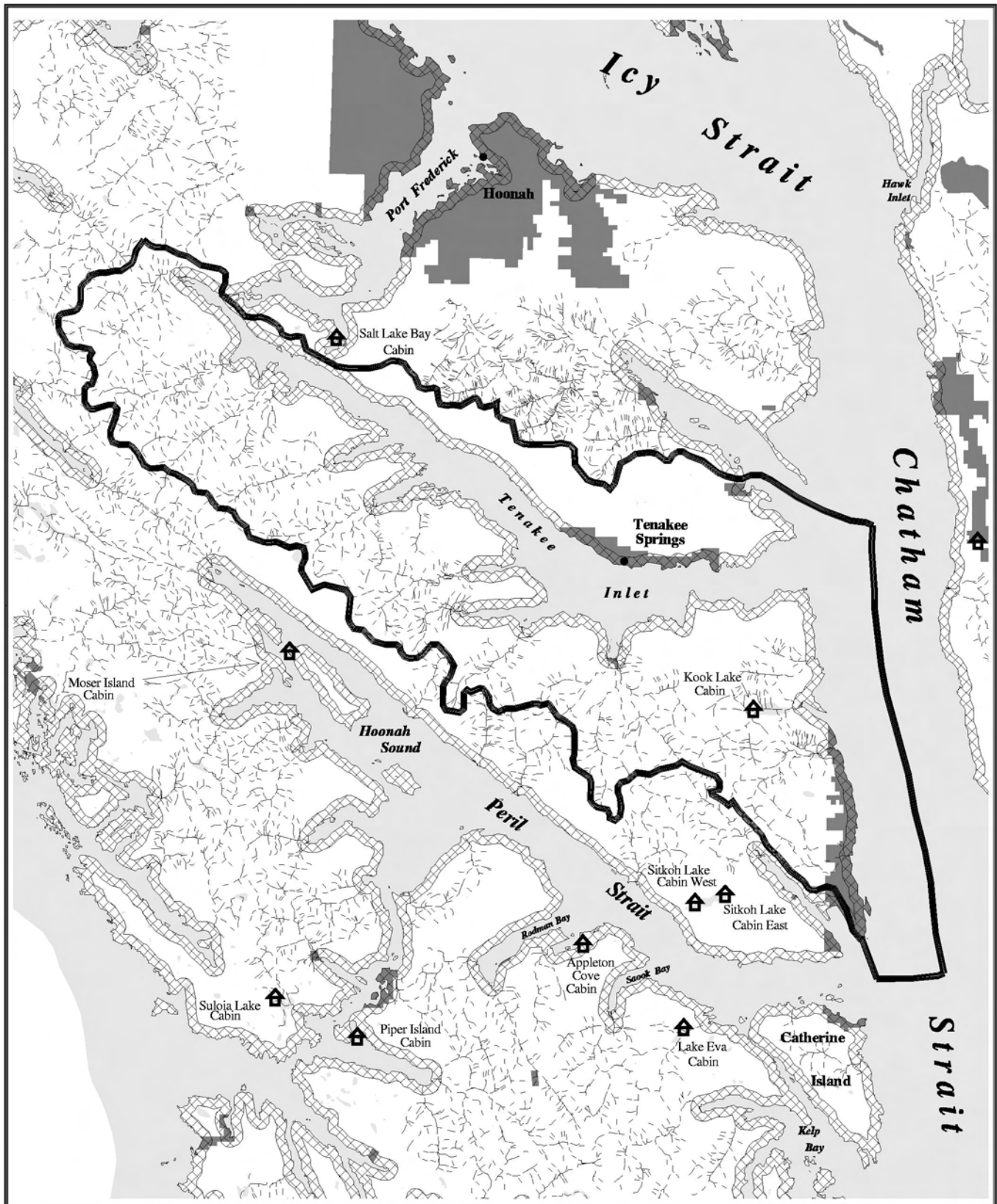
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Corner Bay dock is for Forest Service administrative use. Outfitter/guides may use these docks as permitted but they may not leave boats unattended or obstruct administrative use.

Use will not be authorized for access to kook Lake from Basket Bay unless outfitter/guides provide proof of permission to cross private lands.

Access to Basket Lake from Little Basket Bay will be limited to the trail corridor easement across private land.

Tenakee Inlet Use Area - 04-12



- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | Use Area Boundary |  | Non National Forest Land |
|  | High Value Freshwater Fishing Streams |  | Salt and Fresh Water |
|  | Shoreline Use Zone |  | Forest Service Recreation Cabin |

0.5 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles



Use Area 04-13

Peril Strait (Southern Chichagof, NW Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
16	416	1,872	416
Description Most of this use area encompasses the southern end of Chichagof Island from near Sergius Point to Pt. Hayes and includes a small portion of extreme northwest Baranof Island from south of Bear Bay to a point on the Duffield Peninsula west of Point Peschani. Access to the shoreline along Peril Strait & Hoonah Sound is dictated by weather conditions and tidal flow. Easily accessed shoreline is found in Deep Bay, Bear and Baby Bear coves, Goose Cove, Poison Cove, Ushk Bay, Fick Cove, Patterson Bay, False Island Bight, Lindenberg Harbor, Florence Bay, and Sitkoh Bay.			
LUDs	LUD II, Modified Landscape, Old Growth, Semi-Remote Recreation, Scenic Viewshed, Timber Production, and Wilderness		
ROS	Primitive, Roaded Modified, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized		
National Forest Shoreline Miles	200 miles		
National Forest Shoreline Acres	50,323 acres		
Communities	None		
Alaska Coastal Management Act	Sitka District Coastal Management Program		
Forest Service Facilities			
Public Recreation Cabins	Moser Island, East Sitkoh and West Sitkoh; however, the East and West Sitkoh cabins are each located more than a mile inland from saltwater.		
Administrative Cabins	Forest Service work center and dock at False Island		
Shelters	Ostoia Island		
Trails	Sitkoh Lake Trail		
Non-National Forest System Lands			
Native Allotment parcels are located at Deep Bay and Poison Cove, and Native Corporation parcels are located at Broad Finger and Sitkoh Creek. The former Chatham Cannery site is privately owned and located at Sitkoh Bay. A state marine park is located at Bear and Baby Bear coves.			
Recreation Use			
Area Attractions	Hunting, freshwater fishing, crabbing and shrimping, wildlife viewing, spawning salmon, public recreation cabins and shelters, old growth forests, historic logging area, accessible beaches, Nelson Falls, and contrasting habitats		
Commercial Use	Brown bear hunting, deer hunting, freshwater fishing, hiking, and sightseeing		

Use Area 04-13

Peril Strait (Southern Chichagof, NW Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Non-commercial Use	Use in this area is primarily by residents of Sitka and transient boaters along the travel route to Sitka. Uplands surrounding the Hoonah Sound area are important for their recreational value to the residents of Sitka. The water route from Sitka through inner waterways is protected and can be traveled in most weather conditions.
Use Patterns	Commercial crabbers, boat and land based outfitter/guides, and recreational boaters
Primary Use Areas	The entire area is used.
Areas of Concern	Trespass on private land, and the trail to Nelson Falls is in poor condition.
<u>Management/Resource Considerations</u>	
Subsistence	Sitkoh Lake supports an important subsistence fishery. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource use as a result of this project.
Wildlife	In this use area, there are 263 mapped bald eagle nests and one NMFS-identified Steller sea lion haul-out.
Fisheries	In this use area, 108 Class I streams were mapped, with 21 of these having high value. Most of these streams contain runs of pink, chum, and coho salmon as well as Dolly Varden char, cutthroat trout, and steelhead. This area also contains two large lakes, Sitkoh and Suloia. Suloia Lake contains rainbow trout. Sitkoh Lake supports sockeye, pink, chum, and coho salmon; rainbow, steelhead, and cutthroat trout; and Dolly Varden char. Sitkoh Lake is an important subsistence and recreational fishery. The steelhead return at Sitkoh Lake has attracted a very popular sport fishery. In recent years sockeye sport fishing in Sitkoh Lake drainages and Sitkoh Bay has been closed by ADF&G because of low escapements.
Botany	One botanical survey has been completed covering about 0.25 miles of shoreline with no rare or sensitive plants identified.
Cultural/Heritage	Seven historic and 29 prehistoric sites have been identified from 80 surveys covering 72.5 miles.

Use Area 04-13

Peril Strait (Southern Chichagof, NW Baranof) – Sitka Ranger District

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	101	160	53
Enclaves	Sitkoh Bay Road		
15% Areas	Nismeni Point		

Mitigation

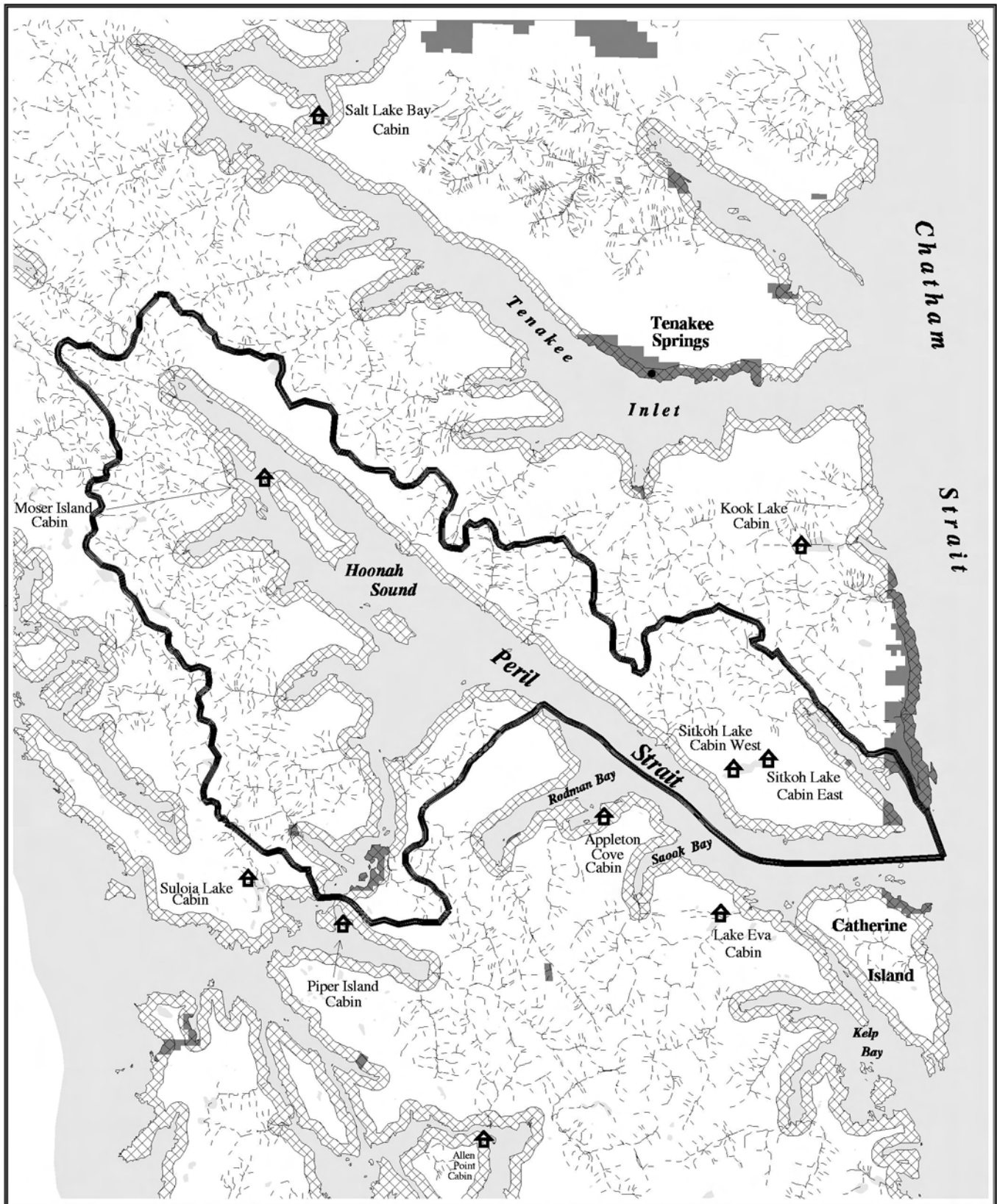
See Appendix C for mitigation measures.




False Island dock is for Forest Service administrative use. Outfitter/guides may use these docks as permitted, but they may not leave boats unattended or obstruct administrative use.




Access along Sitkoh Lake trail will be limited to the trail corridor easement across private land.

Outfitter/guides will not be allowed to fly clients into Sitkoh Lake.

Peril Strait Use Area - 04-13



-  Use Area Boundary
-  High Value Freshwater Fishing Streams
-  Shoreline Use Zone

-  Non National Forest Land
-  Salt and Fresh Water
-  Forest Service Recreation Cabin



10.50 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles

USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 04-14

Slocum Arm (Southwest Chichagof) – Sitka Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
8	296	848	208
<u>Description</u> <p>Use area 04-14 is located in the southwestern region of Chichagof Island including offshore islands. This area encompasses most of the southern portion of the of the West Chichagof – Yakobi Wilderness, between the entrance to Klag Bay and Krugloi Island in Salisbury Sound. Access to uplands with exposed coastline is rarely possible because of ocean swell. Many miles of easily accessible shoreline can be found in the following areas: Leo’s Anchorage, Slocum Arm, Hidden Cove, Flat Cove, Waterfall Cove, Falcon Arm, Ford Arm, Klag Bay, Lake Anna, Sister Lake, and leeward offshore islands.</p> <p>LUDs Wilderness</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, and Rural</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 245</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 29,873 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Sitka District Coastal Management Program</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Special Uses Cabins There are two private cabins under Special Use permit. The first cabin is at the entrance to Klag Bay and the second is where Lake Anna and Sister Lake meet.</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Private land is located on Bauer Island and at several locations adjacent to Klag Bay. Small Native Corporation parcels are located at the entrance to Klag Bay and at the Potato Patch.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Subsistence fishery, remote wilderness and scenic values, historical mining buildings and equipment</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, hiking, sightseeing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Most of the non-commercial use in this area is primarily by residents of Sitka and others seeking an isolated wilderness experience.</p> <p>Use Patterns Commercial trollers, boat based commercial outfitter/guides, and recreational boaters</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Slocum Arm, Ford Arm, and Klag Bay</p>			

Use Area 04-14

Slocum Arm (Southwest Chichagof) – Sitka Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

Streams in this area support important subsistence sockeye fisheries for residents of Sitka. Subsistence permits have been returned for use at Lake Anna, Klag Bay, Ford Arm, and Fortuna Straights. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users due to guided recreation use.

Wildlife

In this use area, there are 29 mapped bald eagle nests.

Fisheries

In this use area, 33 Class I streams have been mapped and four high value fishing streams identified. Most of these streams contain runs of coho, pink, and chum salmon, Dolly Varden char, and small runs of steelhead. There are five sockeye salmon systems in the area, three of which are heavily used subsistence areas due to their relatively close proximity to Sitka. Lake Leo and Sisters Lake systems contain smaller sockeye runs. Sockeye salmon harvests have increased substantially at Klag Bay. If harvest trends continue to increase, the stock may be at risk to decline. In response to increasing harvest trends, ADF&G has restricted subsistence and sport fisheries in Klag Bay.

Botany

In this use area, 12 botanical surveys have been done covering about 1.5 miles of the shoreline. *Botrychium virginianum* was found at one beach meadow at one site on Khaz Peninsula.

Cultural/Heritage

In this use area, 26 cultural resource surveys covering 3.5 miles have been conducted. Ten sites have been identified on National Forest System lands; four are considered historic and six prehistoric.

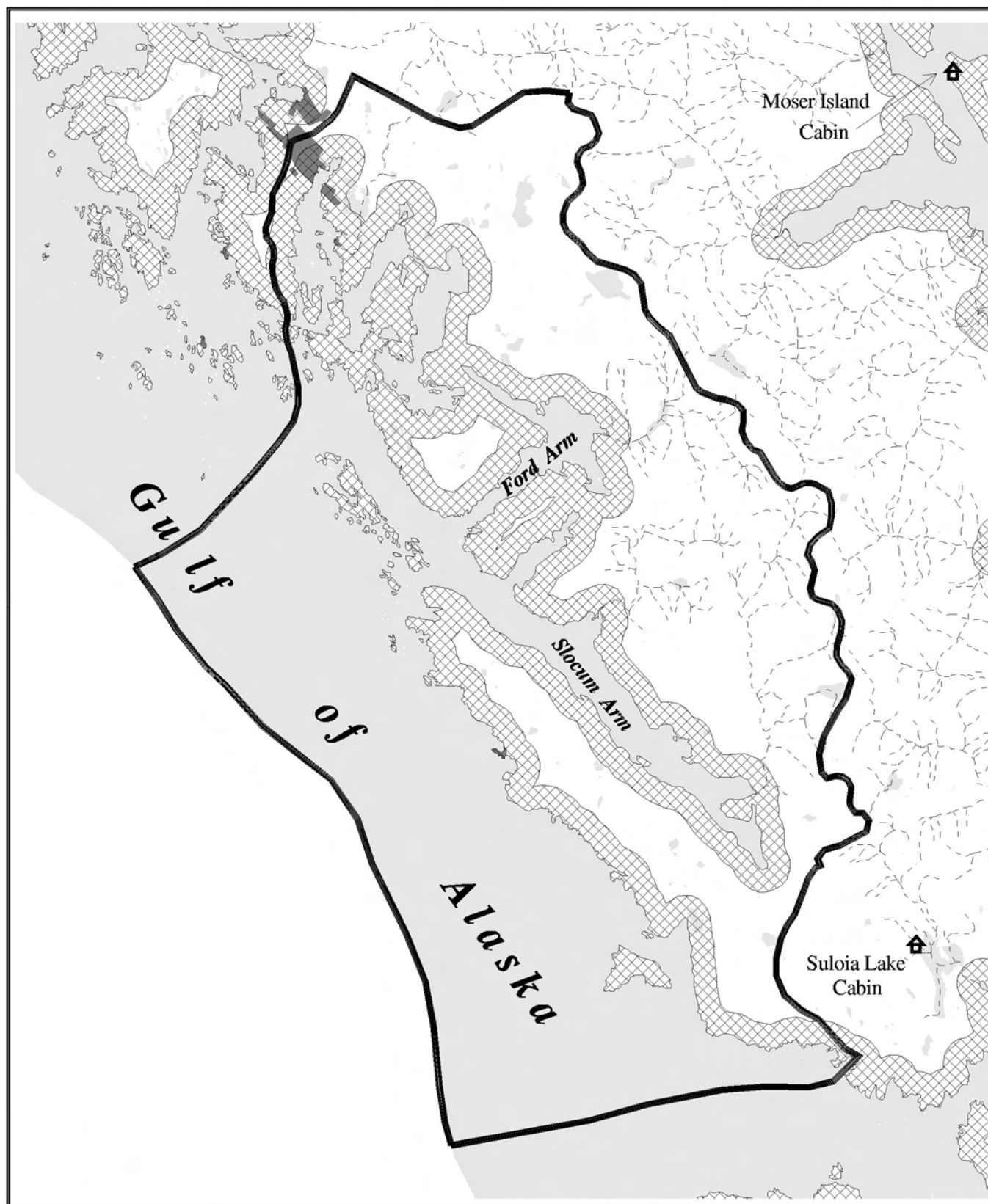
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	41	54	18
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Slocum Arm
Use Area - 04-14



Use Area Boundary



High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams



Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land



Salt and Fresh Water



Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



Scale in Miles



USE AREA
LOCATOR

Use Area 04-15

West Chichagof – Hoonah/Sitka Ranger Districts

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
20	740	2,120	520
<u>Description</u> <p>This area includes northwest Chichagof Island from Three Hill Island west along the outer coast of Chichagof to Khaz Bay. It includes Yakobi Island and encompasses the northern ¾ of the West Chichagof–Yakobi Wilderness. The outer coast of west Yakobi and west Chichagof islands is characterized by an extremely rocky shoreline with intermittent coves and tiny islands. Storms coming directly from the Gulf of Alaska can make the area very treacherous for boaters. South of Point Urey are numerous coves, rocky islands, streams, and inland lakes. It also includes the inside waterways of Lisianski Inlet, Lisianski Strait, and Stag Bay.</p> <p>LUDs LUD II, LUD II Wild River, Semi Remote Recreation, and Wilderness</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Rural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 604 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 66,022 acres</p> <p>Communities The community of Pelican is situated along the east shore of Lisianski Inlet. Private property adjacent to Pelican expands out across 10 miles of shoreline and includes several remote inholdings isolated from the city boundary.</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act This use area includes the district boundary for the City of Pelican Coastal Management Plan.</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Public Recreation Cabins Greentop, White Sulphur Springs, and Goulding Lakes Cabins</p> <p>Trails Greentop, Stag Bay, Stag River, Lisianski River, Takanis Lake, White Sulphur Springs, Mirror Harbor, Dry Pass, Didrickson, and Goulding Lakes</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Non-National Forest System lands include: Soapstone Cove, Cape Bingham, Ewe Ledge, and Mite Cove on North Yakobi Island; the City of Pelican and adjacent private properties in Lisianski Inlet; and Kimshan Cove on west Chichagof Island.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Anadromous fish streams, White Sulfur Hot Springs, Greentop Cabin, and remote rugged setting of the outer coast</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, camping, sightseeing, commercial fishing, recreational boaters and kayakers, boat-based outfitter/guides, boat-based subsistence use, and boat-based sport fishing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Hunting, hiking, sightseeing, and kayak camping</p>			

Use Area 04-15

West Chichagof – Hoonah/Sitka Ranger Districts

Primary Use Areas	Three Hill Island is a popular location for mid-size cruise ships and residents of Elfin Cove. Lisianski River, Stag Bay, and various places along Lisianski Inlet and Lisianski Strait receive consistent use, along with the Chichigof Wilderness Area. West Yakobi includes the popular recreation places of Hoktaheen Cove, Deer Harbor, Squid Bay, Takanis Bay, and Greentop Harbor. Popular recreation areas include Porcupine Bay, White Sulfur Hot Springs, Sea Level Slough, Goulding Harbor, Dry Pass, Black Bay, Bertha Bay, and Portlock Harbor.
Areas of Concern	Lisianski River is a recommended Wild River. Perceptions of crowding and motor craft use on Lisianski River. Use at White Sulphur Springs.
<u>Management/Resource Considerations</u>	
Subsistence	An annual average of 98 subsistence fishing permits have been returned for use at Surge Bay, Hoktaheen Cove, Lisianski River, Tkanis Bay, and Klag Bay. Hoktaheen Lake and the associated outlet stream produce a significant return of sockeye salmon. Hoktaheen sockeye harvest is important for residents of small communities in the Cross Sound area including Hoonah, Pelican, and Elfin Cove. Two nearby systems on West Yakobi Island, Surge Bay and Takanis Bay, have minor subsistence harvests. To ensure adequate escapement, harvest restrictions have been placed on all the above streams. There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users due to this project.
Wildlife	Three NMFS-identified Steller sea lion haul outs are located in this use area. In this use area, 45 bald eagle nests are mapped.
Fisheries	<p>In this use area, 106 Class I streams have been mapped, of which 12 streams are identified as having high fishing values. Hoktaheen Lake and the associated outlet stream produce a significant return of sockeye salmon. Hoktaheen Lake is 126 acres in area and the outlet stream is approximately 1.5 miles long. The average reported subsistence harvest over the 1995-1999 period was approximately 1,100 fish from an average of 45 permits. Hoktaheen sockeye harvest is important for residents of small communities in the Cross Sound area including Hoonah, Pelican, and Elfin Cove. Two nearby systems on West Yakobi Island, Surge Bay and Takanis Bay, have minor subsistence harvests.</p> <p>Harvests of sockeye from the Hoktaheen system have increased dramatically in recent years from an average of 406 during the 1988-1994 period to an average of 1,222 fish during 1995-1999. There has been recent concern that the system may be over harvested. If harvest trends continue to increase, the stock may be at risk to decline. In response to increasing harvest trends, ADF&G management staff restricted subsistence and sport fisheries in 1999 and 2000 as a precautionary measure and sought funding for stock assessment programs to provide information necessary to assess the stock status and current regulations. Beginning with the 1999 season, the department reduced the season by permits allowing harvest from June 1-July 20, ensuring that the final 20% of historic run timing would be available for escapement. Similar action was taken at Surge Bay and Takanis Bay.</p>
Botany	Twenty-eight surveys covering four miles of shoreline revealed <i>Poa norbergii</i> in the rocks next to a beach and <i>Rhododendron camtschaticum</i> was found in a muskeg just back from a beach.
Cultural/Heritage	In this use area, 12 historic and 10 prehistoric sites were identified from 61 surveys that covered 19.25 miles.

Use Area 04-15

West Chichagof – Hoonah/Sitka Ranger Districts

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

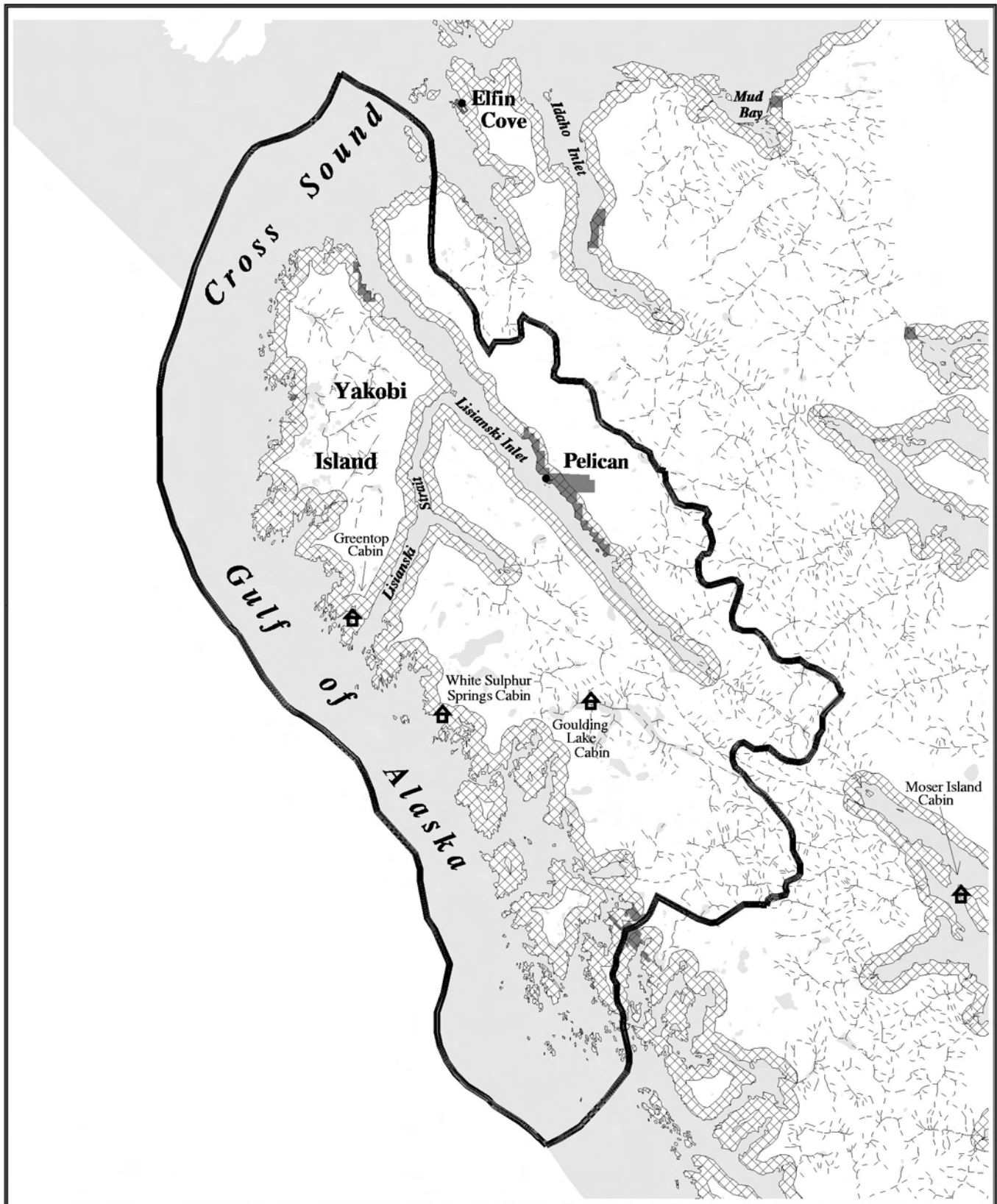
	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	58	206	32
<i>Enclaves</i>	Three Hill Island		
	Bohemia Basin		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Outfitter/guide use will not displace unguided users at White Sulphur Springs Bathhouse.

West Chichagof Use Area - 04-15



Use Area Boundary
High Value Freshwater
Fishing Streams
Shoreline Use Zone



Non National Forest Land
Salt and Fresh Water
Forest Service Recreation Cabin

10.50 1 2 Miles
Scale in Miles



Use Area 04-16A

Point Adolphus (North Chichagof) – Hoonah Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	222	636	156
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area includes the popular areas of Point Adolphus and Pinta Cove. Point Adolphus is the northern most point on Chichagof Island bound by the waters of Icy Strait and receives some of the highest levels of remote recreational use on the Tongass. Opportunities for wildlife viewing, particularly humpback whales, attract increasing numbers of visitors each year. For this reason, this area is being managed as one of the smallest sub-units of the project area.</p> <p>LUDs LUD II and Old Growth</p> <p>ROS Semi-Primitive Motorized and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 11 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 3,078 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Shelters Pinta Cove</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Wildlife viewing opportunities, especially humpback whales; camping; and scenic setting</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, camping, freshwater fishing, and sightseeing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use This is an important recreation area for the residents of Hoonah, Gustavus, Elfin Cove, and Pelican activities include kayak tent camping and day hiking.</p> <p>Use Patterns This area receives a variety of boat-based use from both commercial and non-commercial operators. Offshore boat traffic consists of large cruise ships; commercial fishing boats; chartered sport fishing and whale watching vessels; local and non-resident pleasure boats engaged in subsistence, fishing, wildlife viewing, or transiting between communities and other recreation areas and tour boats. Recreational access to the national forest via saltwater includes kayak transporters; commercial kayak outfitter/guides; non-commercial kayakers; tour boats dropping off groups by kayak or small skiff; local small craft sightseeing and hiking; local and non-resident pleasure boaters going ashore by small skiff; commercial outfitter guides engaged in sightseeing, hiking, and bear hunting.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Eagle Beach, Point Adolphus, Pinta Cove, and Pinta Point</p> <p>Areas of Concern Impacts from campsites</p>			

Use Area 04-16A

Point Adolphus (North Chichagof) – Hoonah Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource users.

Wildlife

In this use area, 11 bald eagle nests are mapped. The entire use area is within the Alaska Board of Game Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area for state and federal management of brown bears.

Fisheries

Four Class I streams are mapped; however, no streams were identified with high freshwater fishing values.

Botany

Eight surveys covering 1.5 miles of shoreline revealed *Botrychium linaria* and *B. minganense* within beach meadows.

Cultural/Heritage

Eight surveys that covered five miles revealed no sites in this area.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	33	159	23
Enclaves	None		
15% Areas	Pinta Cove		

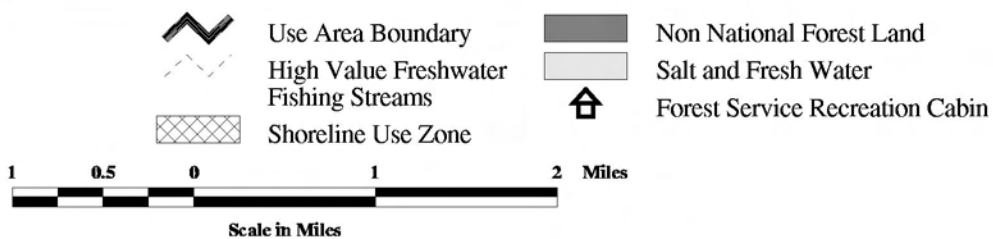
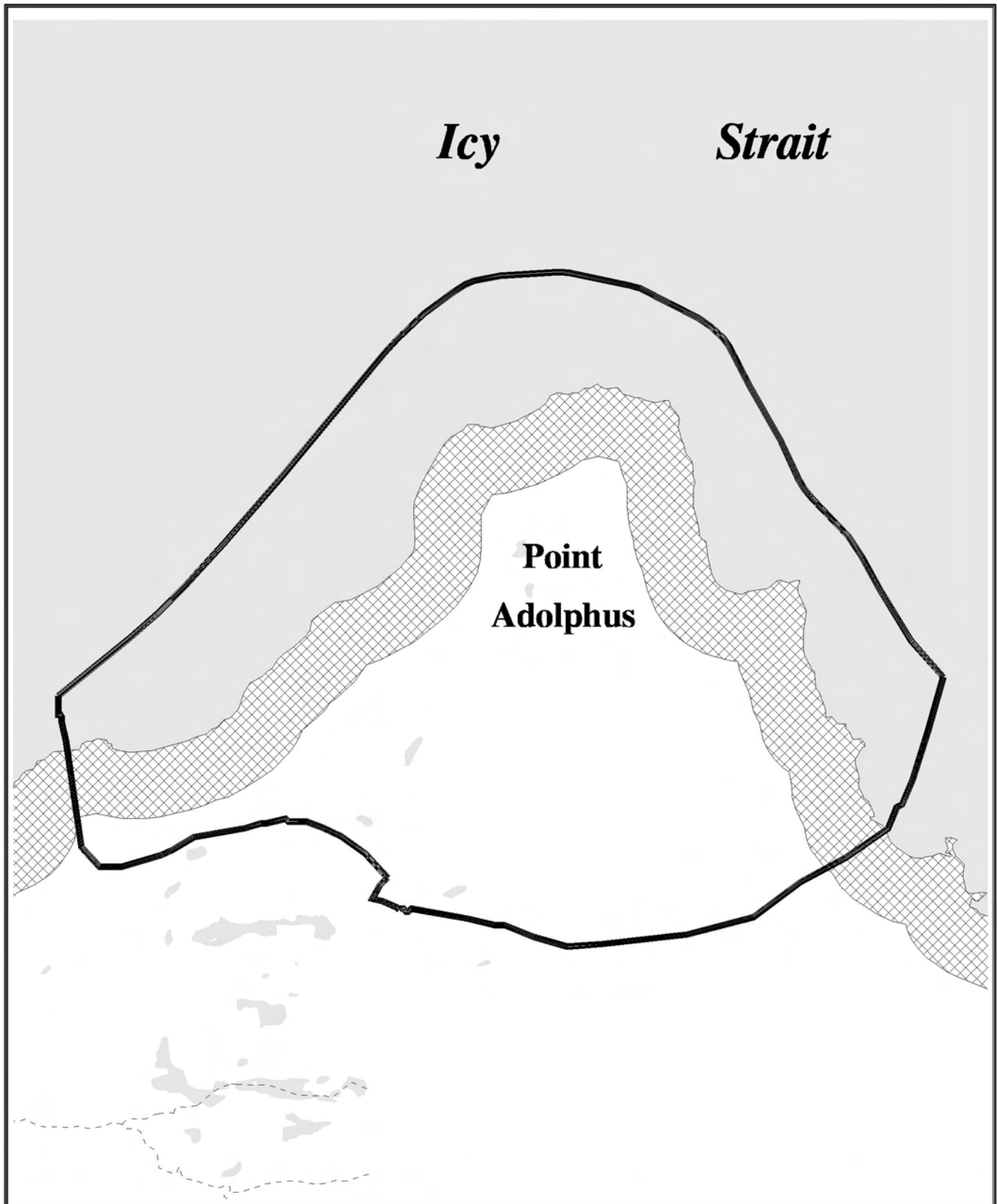
Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Outfitter/guide use will not displace unguided users at Pinta Cove shelter.

Guided campsite use will be allocated. Campsite locations will be delineated in a campsite management plan before additional guided camping use levels are permitted.

Point Adolphus
Use Area - 04-16A



Use Area 04-16B

Mud Bay (North Chichagof) – Hoonah Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	222	636	156
<u>Description</u> <p>This Use Area was defined to include the relatively small management area of Mud Bay. Mud Bay is a popular recreation place and lies within 30 boat miles from Hoonah, Gustavus, and Elfin Cove. Shoreline included in this area runs from Damp Marker (between Point Adolphus and Mud Bay) and continues west to Gull Cove at the entrance to Idaho Inlet including Goose Island.</p> <p>LUDs LUD II</p> <p>ROS Semi-Primitive Motorized and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 34 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 6,579 acres</p> <p>Communities None</p> <p>Alaska Coastal Management Act Outside of any coastal district boundaries</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>Private property includes areas located west of Mud Bay River, two private lodges at Gull Cove, and two hunter cabins under Special Use permit in Mud Bay.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Fishing, good boat anchorage, scenic setting, and wildlife viewing</p> <p>Commercial Use Brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, camping, and sightseeing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use This is an important recreation area for the residents of Hoonah, Gustavus, Elfin Cove, and Pelican. Fishing, sightseeing, camping, and hunting</p> <p>Use Patterns Boat based use to access Mud Bay River including: small craft, kayak, prop boats, and jet boats. Wheeled and floatplanes are used to access the area.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Gull Cove, Mud Bay, and Mud Bay River</p> <p>Areas of Concern Guided use levels on Mud Bay River and motorized boat use on the Mud Bay River</p>			

Use Area 04-16B

Mud Bay (North Chichagof) – Hoonah Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

<i>Subsistence</i>	There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource uses due to this project.
<i>Wildlife</i>	In this use area, 16 bald eagle nests are mapped. The entire use area is within the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area for state and federal management of brown bears.
<i>Fisheries</i>	In this use area, 12 Class I streams have been mapped, of which five streams were identified with high fishing values.
<i>Botany</i>	Eight surveys covering 1.5 miles of shoreline revealed <i>Botrychium lunaria</i> and possibly one another <i>Botrychium</i> species.
<i>Cultural/Heritage</i>	Two historic and two prehistoric sites were identified during six surveys that covered 2.5 miles.

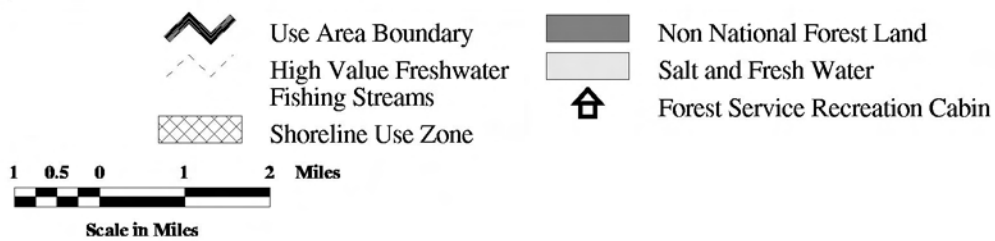
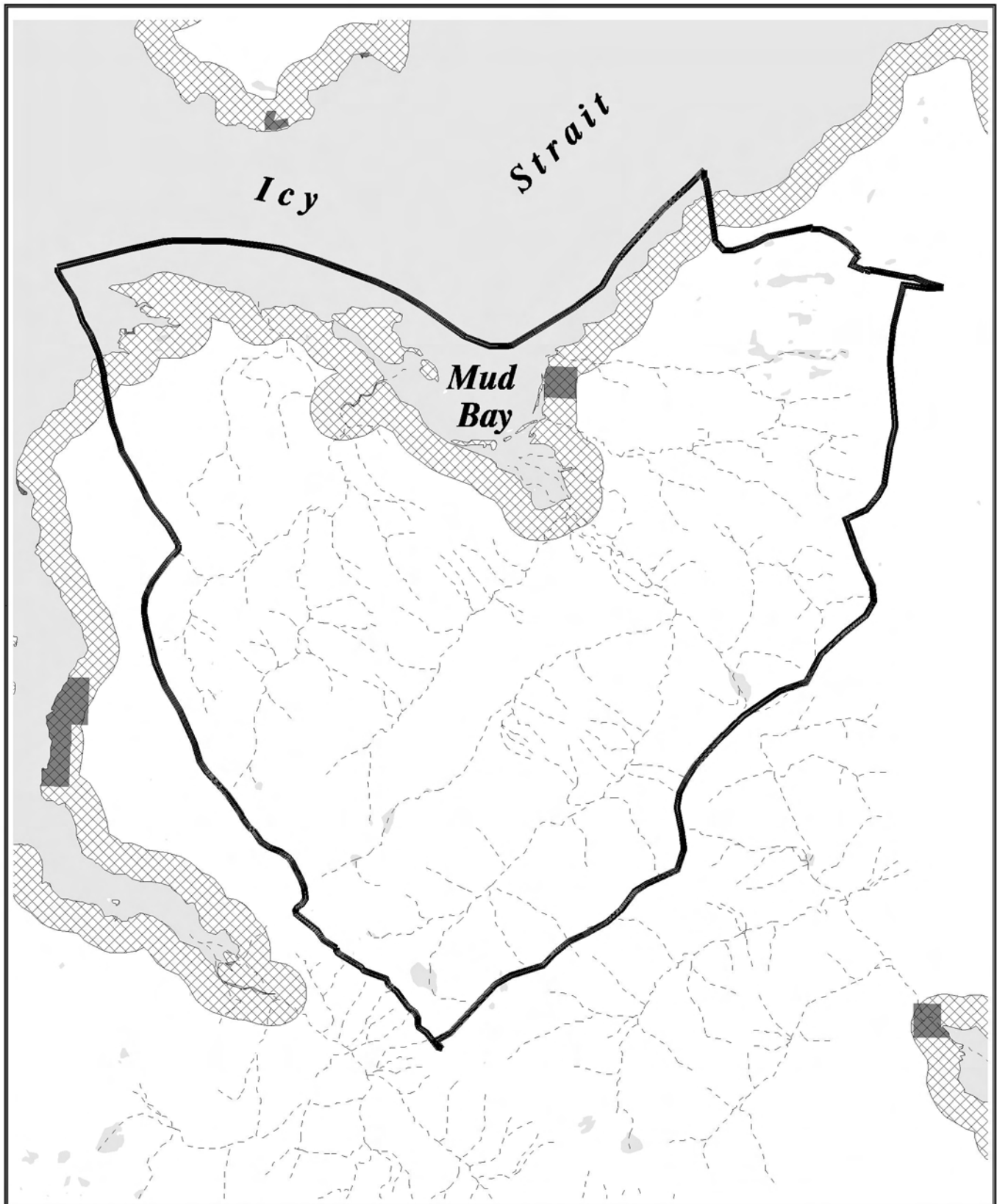
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
<i>Commercial Allocation (groups by season)</i>	Spr	Sum	Fall
	33	159	23
<i>Enclaves</i>	None		
<i>15% Areas</i>	None		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Mud Bay
Use Area - 04-16B



Use Area 04-16C

Idaho Inlet (Northwest Chichagof) – Hoonah Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	222	636	156
<u>Description</u> <p>This area was defined to include Idaho Inlet, the Shaw Islands, and the Trail River Estuary.</p> <p>LUDs LUD II and Semi-Remote Recreation</p> <p>ROS Primitive, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Roaded Natural</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 36 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 9,769 acres</p> <p>Communities There is a tiny resident community of approximately 3–4 homes located on the northeast shoreline of Idaho Inlet. There are no private lodges within this use area.</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>None</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>One private residence at Nip-n-Tuck and one hunter cabin on the west shore of central Idaho Inlet are under special use permit. There is State selected property on east shore of Idaho Inlet.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Trail River is a highly productive anadromous fish stream. Wildlife viewing, scenic setting, long estuary flats, and good anchorage at the head of the bay</p> <p>Commercial Use This area has received a steady increase in use over the last several years. In 1999, the Idaho Inlet area reported one of the highest levels of guided use within the north Tongass Shoreline EIS project area activities include brown bear hunting, freshwater fishing, camping, and sightseeing.</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Fishing, hunting, and sightseeing</p> <p>Use Patterns Commercial and non-commercial users anchor at the head of the bay accessing Trail River by small craft for hunting, sightseeing, and fishing. Mid-size cruise ships anchor at the head of the bay where clients can hike in the estuary flats and Marble Creek or kayak in the bay.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Fox Creek, Idaho Inlet, Marble Creek, and Trail River</p> <p>Areas of Concern Motorized watercraft use on Trail River</p>			

Use Area 04-16C

Idaho Inlet (Northwest Chichagof) – Hoonah Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource uses due to this project.

Wildlife

In this use area, 34 bald eagle nests are mapped.

Fisheries

In this use area, 25 Class 1 streams have been mapped with only one stream, Trail River, identified with high fishing values. Trail River was identified as having potential habitat concerns due to motorized watercraft. See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Botany

Eight surveys covering 1.5 miles of shoreline. No rare or sensitive plants were found.

Cultural/Heritage

Two historic sites and one prehistoric site were identified during eight surveys that covered 2.25 miles.

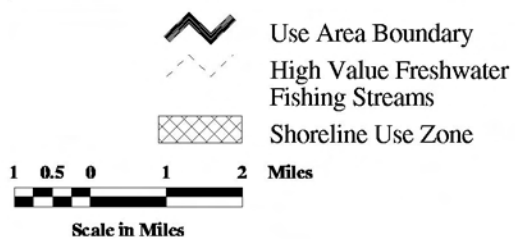
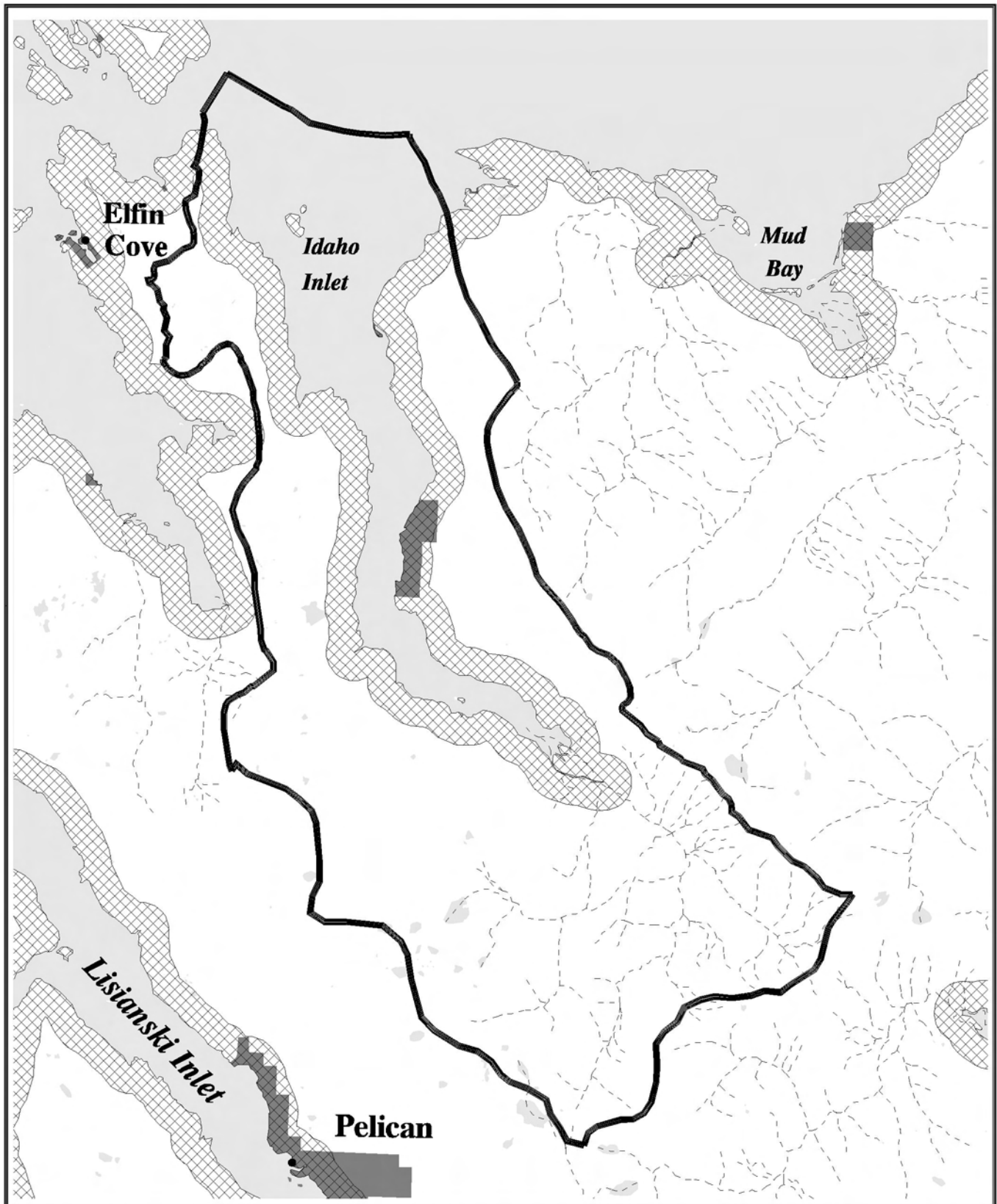
Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	33	159	23
Enclaves	None		
15% Areas	Fox Creek		

Mitigation

See Appendix C for mitigation measures.

Idaho Inlet
Use Area - 04-16C



Use Area 04-16D

Port Althorp – Hoonah Ranger District

<u>Recreation Carrying Capacity (total capacity for all users)</u>			
Groups at one time	Spring	Summer	Fall
6	222	636	156
<u>Description</u> <p>This use area was defined to manage the area around the community of Elfin Cove, Port Althorp, and the Lemesurier and Inian Islands Wilderness Areas. It also includes the George Islands. It has a high recreational value for both commercial and non-commercial operations.</p> <p>LUDs LUD II, Semi-Remote Recreation, and Wilderness</p> <p>ROS Rural, Roaded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Miles 90 miles</p> <p>National Forest Shoreline Acres 15,853 acres</p> <p>Communities This use area includes the community of Elfin Cove. This tiny fishing village has a fluctuating population of approximately 125 people during the summer season, composed primarily of seasonal private lodges that provide ocean sport fishing charters, stream fishing, and sightseeing tours. The population decreases during winter to about 25 year round residents. This isolated village is accessible by floatplane or boat only and has no ferry service.</p>			
<u>Forest Service Facilities</u> <p>Trails George Islands WWII Cannon Trail and Lemesurier Island Trail</p>			
<u>Non-National Forest System Lands</u> <p>This use area includes the community of Elfin Cove, one private inholding at Margaret Creek in Port Althorp; two private inholdings on Lemesurier Island at Jacks Cove and Willoughby Cove; and two private inholdings at Inian Island at Hobbit Hole and Inian Cove.</p>			
<u>Recreation Use</u> <p>Area Attractions Scenic setting, Icy Strait, Elfin Cove, marine and terrestrial mammal viewing opportunities, sea bird watching, and safe anchorage in Port Althorp</p> <p>Commercial Use Freshwater fishing, camping, and sightseeing</p> <p>Non-commercial Use Oyster farm in Port Althorp, fishing, and hunting</p> <p>Use Patterns This area is a travel corridor for commercial vessels, recreationists, and local residents of the communities of Pelican, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, and Hoonah. Tour boats frequent the George Islands.</p> <p>Primary Use Areas Granite Cove and Port Althorp</p> <p>Areas of Concern George Island WWII Cannon Trail is in poor condition. Site hardening is necessary if use increases or continues at current levels.</p>			

Use Area 04-16D

Port Althorp – Hoonah Ranger District

Management/Resource Considerations

Subsistence

There are no anticipated restrictions on subsistence resource use due to this project.

Wildlife

NMFS identified one Steller sea lion haul-out in this use area. Although not mapped it is assumed that bald eagle nests are located along the shoreline in numbers at least equal to surveyed areas to the east of this use area. The Port Althorp state and federal closed area is closed to taking brown bears.

Fisheries

Six Class I streams were mapped, two of which have high freshwater fishing values.

Botany

Five surveys covering one mile of shoreline revealed *Botrychium lunaria*, *B. virginianum*, and *B. minganense* have been found in beach meadows.

Cultural/Heritage

One historic and one prehistoric site were identified during eight surveys that covered three miles.

Group Days by Season for the Selected Alternative

	Modified Alt. 4		
Commercial Allocation (groups by season)	Spr	Sum	Fall
	33	156	23
Enclaves	George Island		
15% Areas	None		

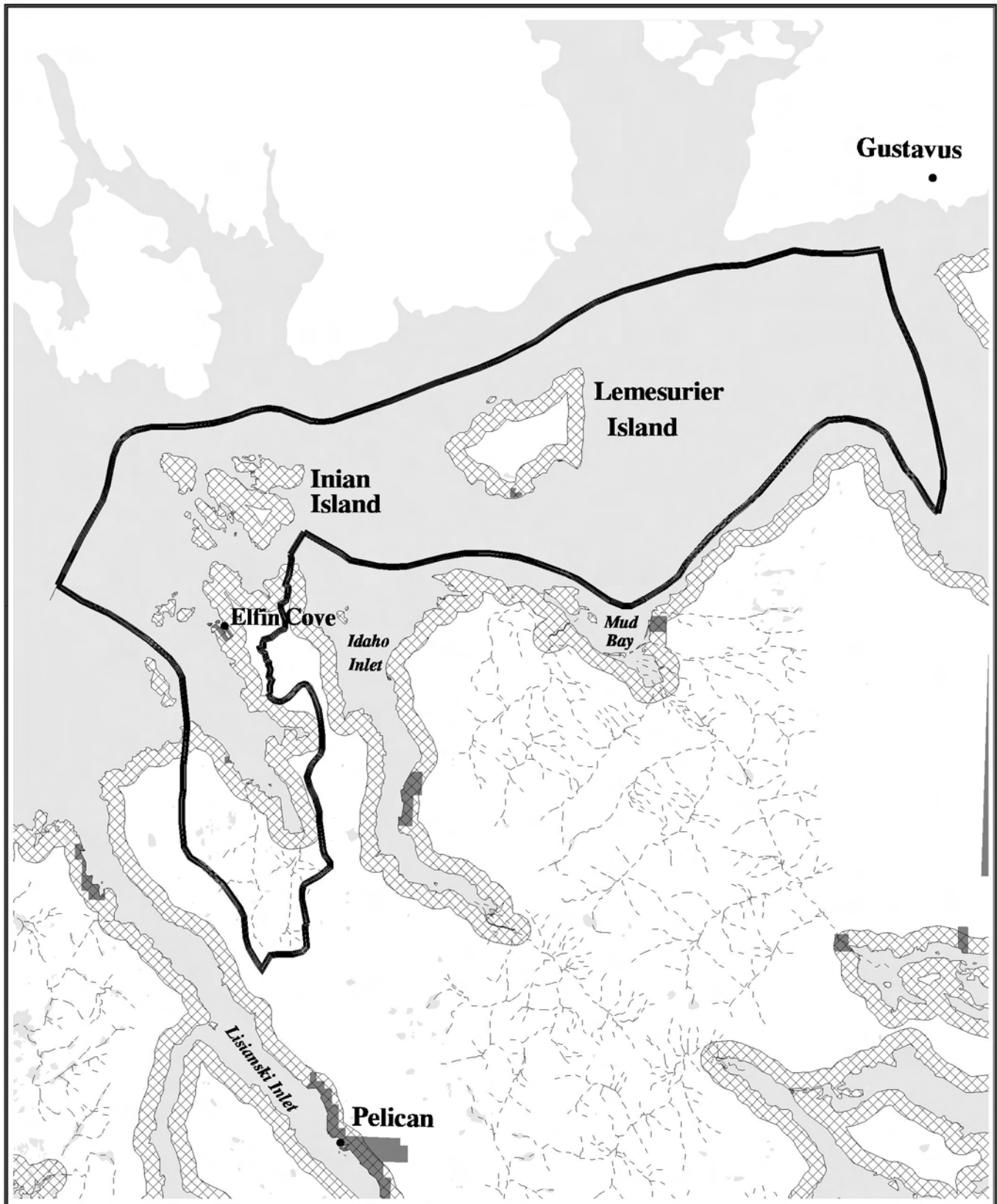
Mitigation




See Appendix C for mitigation measures.




Additional outfitter/guide use levels on the George Island WWII Cannon trail will not be permitted until the trail has been reconstructed.


The Port Althorp area is closed to brown bear hunting south of a line from Point Lucan to Salt Chuck Point.

Port Althorp
Use Area - 04-16D



-  Use Area Boundary
-  High Value Freshwater Fishing Streams
-  Shoreline Use Zone

-  Non National Forest Land
-  Salt and Fresh Water
-  Forest Service Recreation Cabin

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

Scale in Miles



Appendix ROD A—Use Area Cards



ROD Appendix B

Large Group Area Cards

ROD—Appendix B

Large Group Area Cards

Large Group Areas are specific areas where larger groups of 21–75 people may be allowed. Smaller size groups are also allowed. Guides will be counted as part of a group, when determining the overall group size. The two types of large group areas are Enclaves and Fifteen-Percent areas. Enclaves are areas where large groups can occur on a regular basis throughout all seasons. Fifteen-Percent areas are places where large groups can occur only on an occasional basis, for less than 15 percent of the primary use season.

The following Large Group Area cards provide site-specific information and resource considerations relating to commercial recreation management for these areas. They support the information provided in Chapters 2 and 3. Most resource concerns are mitigated through measures listed in Appendix C, which apply to guided recreation use across the analysis area. Mitigation measures are not repeated in this section.

Figure B-1 displays the location of the large group areas. No guided large groups will be allowed to camp in these large group areas. No guided recreation activities involving the consumption of resources such as fishing, hunting, or plant gathering will be allowed by large groups in these areas.

The information on these cards will be used to prepare and administer outfitter/guide permits. Where applicable, the mitigation measures will be incorporated into the document as permit stipulations. Permit conditions will be enforced through monitoring and permit administration.

Table ROD B-1. List of Large Group Areas

ENCLAVES			
Use Area	Name of Large Group Area	Use Area	Name of Large Group Area
01-01	Katzehin Falls	04-04A	Rodman Bay
01-02	Sullivan Mountain	04-04A	Saook Bay
01-04C	Sunny Cove	04-04B	Hanus Bay
01-05B	Mallard Cove	04-08	Cordwood Creek
01-05B	Williams Cove	04-08	Fowler Creek
01-05B	Point Anmer	04-11	Eight Fathom Dock
01-05B	West Gilbert Bay	04-11	Kennel Creek
01-05C	Fanshaw	04-11	Red Cliff Islands
01-05C	North Windham Bay	04-11	Salt Lake Bay Dock
01-05C	Port Houghton	04-12	Corner Bay Road
01-05C	Sand Bay	04-13	Sitkoh Bay Road
04-03	Eagle River Road	04-15	Bohemia Basin
04-04A	Lake Eva Trail	04-15	Three Hill Island
04-04A	Point Elizabeth	04-16D	George Island

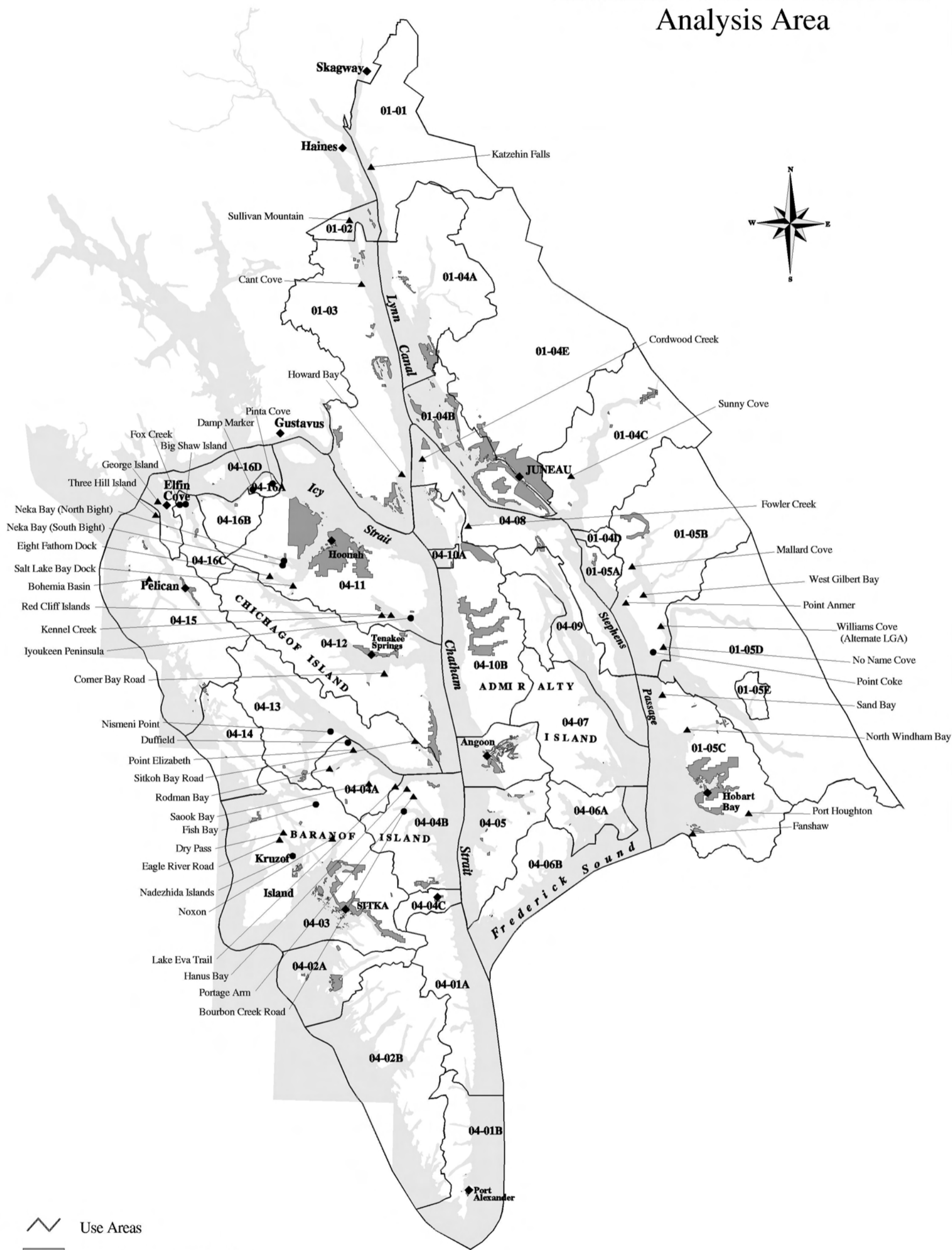
Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Table ROD B-2. List of Large Group Areas

FIFTEEN PERCENT AREAS

Use Area	Name of Large Group Area
01-05B	Point Coke
04-11	Iyoukeen Peninsula
04-11	Neka Bay North Bight
04-11	Neka Bay South Bight
04-13	Nismeni Point
04-16A	Pinta Cove
04-16C	Fox Creek

Vicinity Map
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
Analysis Area



- Use Areas
- Non National Forest Land
- Large Group Area –15-Percent Area
- Large Group Area –Enclave

12 6 0 12 24 Miles
Scale in Miles

Figure B-1

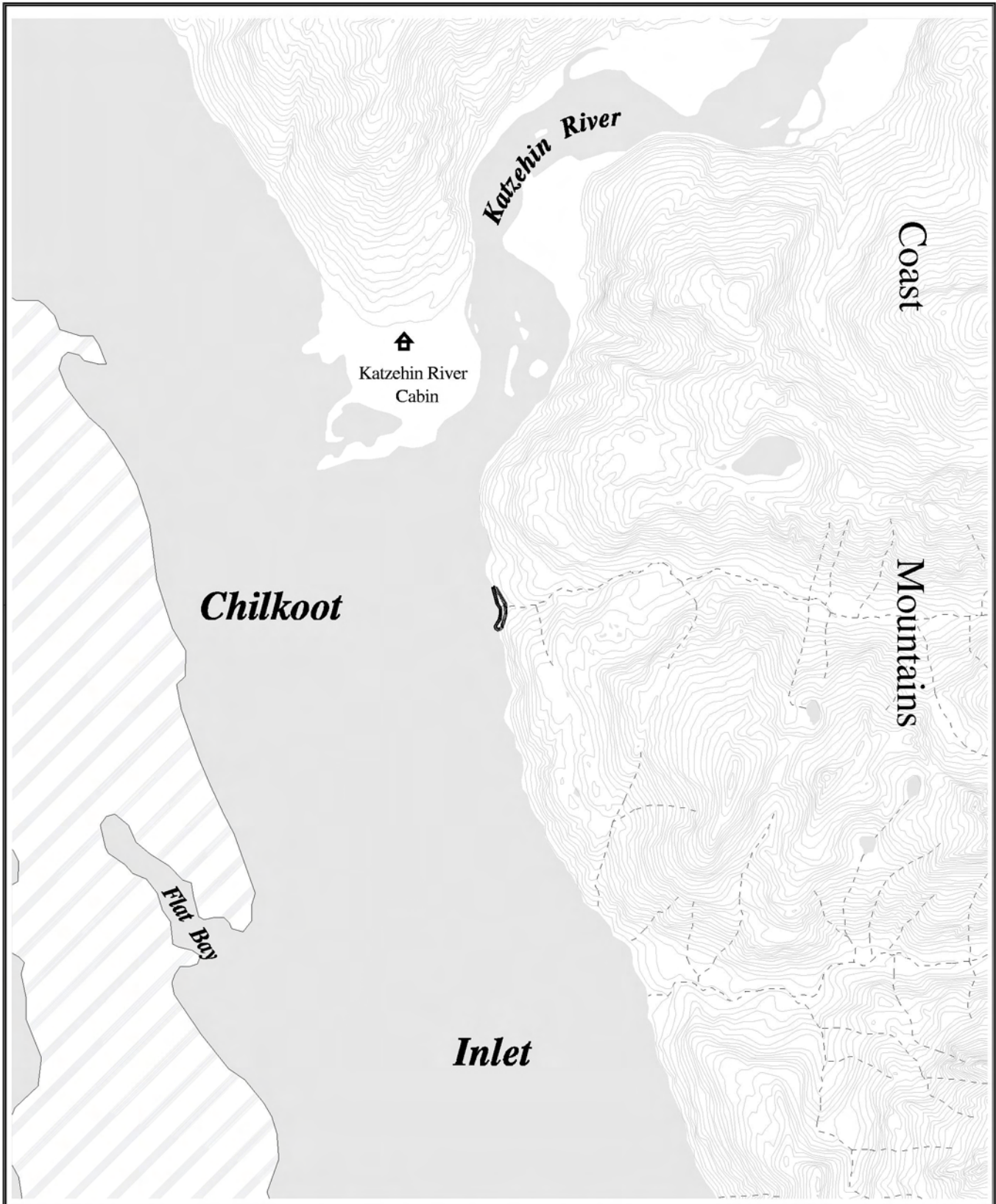
Large Group Areas—Appendix ROD B



Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Katzehin Falls Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 01-01 Semi-Remote Recreation, Transportation and Utility System Corridor Roaded Natural 7
General Characteristics	<p>This site is located south of the Katzehin River on the east side of Lynn Canal. Topography in this area is generally steep, rocky, and forested. A large waterfall empties into a narrow tidal area near the site. South of the falls and inside the tree line the understory is open. The lower two miles of the river are not included in the recommendation for Wild and Scenic River Corridor status, due in part to the proposed state road between Juneau and Skagway.</p>
Historical Use	There was no reported commercial use of this site during 1999-2001.
Access	<p>There is little protection at this site except on relatively calm days. Silt outwash from the Katzehin River and creek has created a shallow approach. Steep terrain confines use to the narrow beach and just inside the tree line. The creek has a strong flow and crossing on foot is not recommended. Proximity to frequent boat traffic, as well as the Alaska Marine Highway was the rationale in TLMP for mapping this as "Roaded Natural".</p>
Facilities	None
Concerns and/or Opportunities	<p>Bear sign was noted along the creek. Due to site size and natural features, there are no opportunities to avoid animals when they are present. At one time, the state had selected this parcel for a potential ferry terminal. The Department of Transportation is no longer interested in the parcel for this purpose.</p>
Attractions	<p>This area features a large waterfall, sandy beaches, and an excellent view across Lynn Canal towards the Chilkat Mountains and a hanging glacier. A large stump was found below the high tide mark, a remnant of a period of glacial retreat. This area provides an opportunity for viewing shorebirds.</p>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Haines Area, Designation General Use

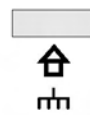
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-01 KATZEHIN FALLS



Large Group Area Boundary
 Streams
 Existing Road



Non National Forest Land
 Wilderness
 Outside of Project Area



Salt and Fresh Water
 Recreation Cabin
 Marine Access Point



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



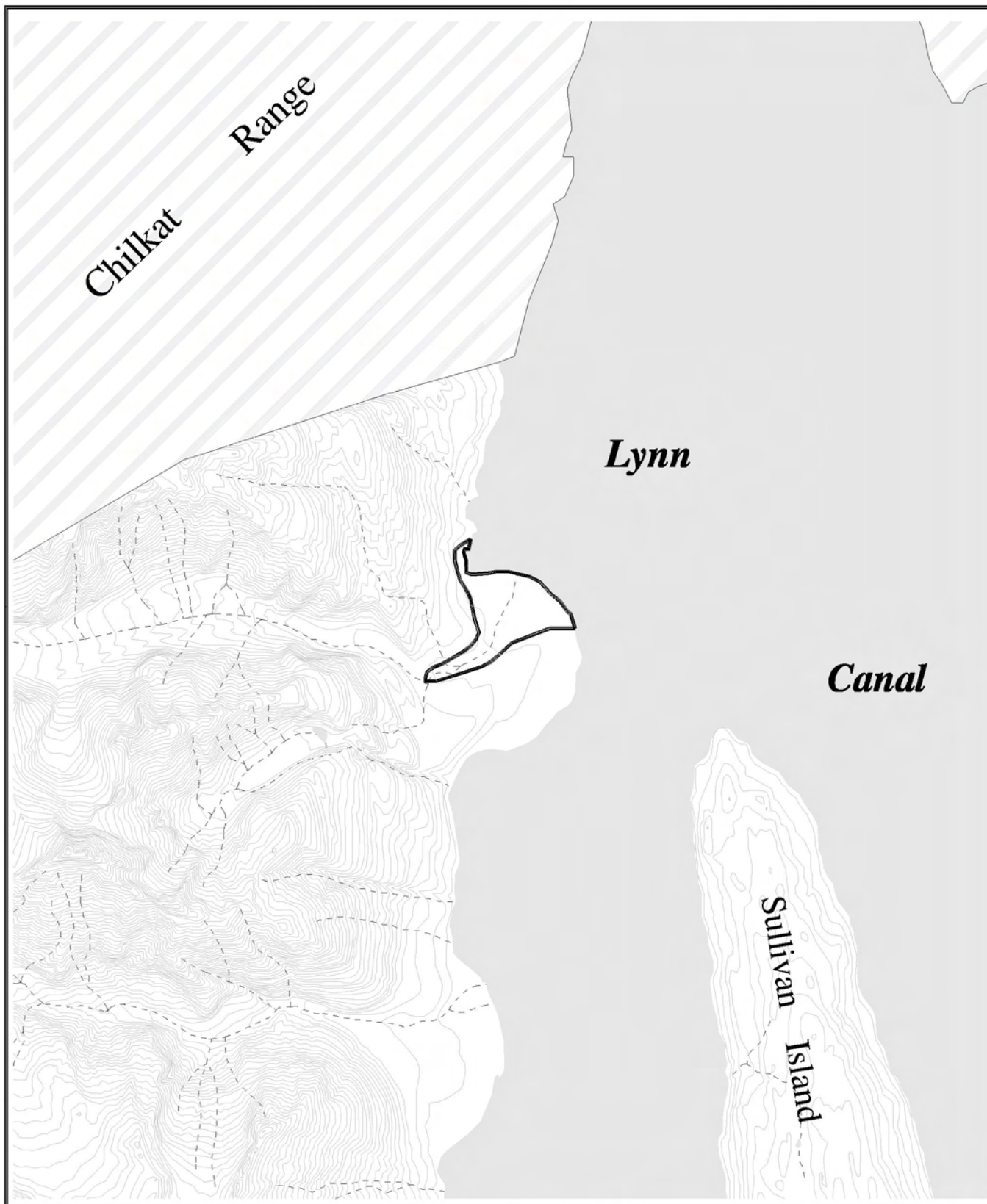
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas	
Sullivan Mountain Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	01-02
LUD	Modified Landscape
ROS	Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-motorized
Acres	235
General Characteristics	Located at the mouth of a braided glacial outwash creek, this site is characterized by an outwash plain comprised of glacial silt, cobble, and boulder substrate. Alder, willow, cottonwood, and spruce mark the upland flats south of the creek. Along the face of the alluvial plain to the south is a long and rocky beach bordered by a beach rye grass meadow extending to the tree line.
Historical Use	Commercial use was not reported during 1999-2001. In the 1960's, timber harvest occurred on the south side of the alluvial plain within the flats.
Access	Access may be primarily by floatplane or boat. The cove may provide some protection for anchoring from winds to the south but may be more exposed from the north. Water depths are shallow in front of the creek but the beach is deeper to the south of the creek.
Facilities	None
Concerns and/or Opportunities	Potential facilities could be shielded from shoreline view by the gentle terrain. There area private land parcels in the area.
Attractions	The flora and fauna of the Chilkat Mountains
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagle ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation • Guided activities must not trespass on private land
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Haines Area, Designation General Use

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-02 SULLIVAN MOUNTAIN



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



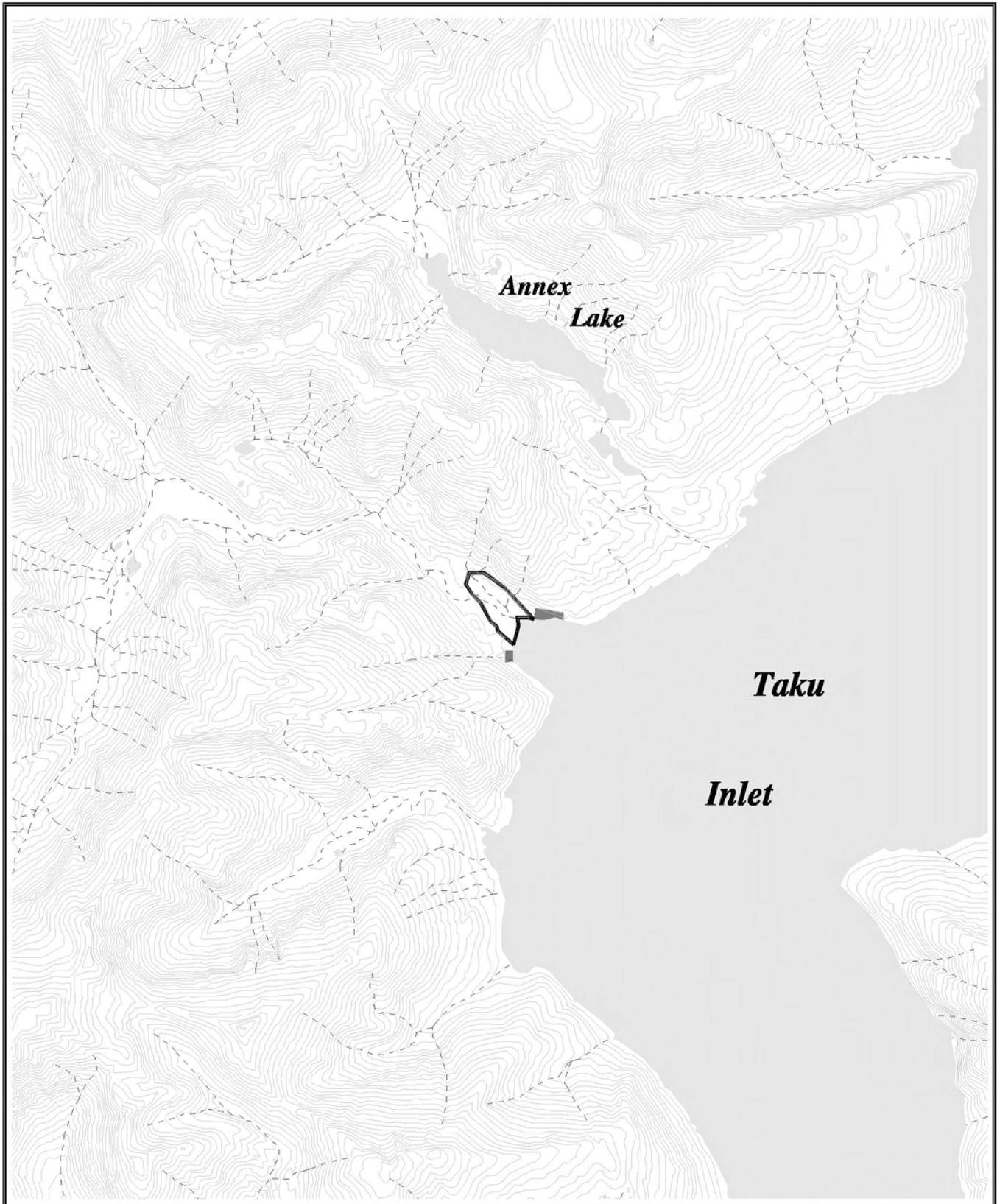
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Sunny Cove Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	01-04C
LUD	Semi-Remote Recreation
ROS	Roaded Natural
Acres	66
General Characteristics	This site is located on the north side of Taku Inlet on Carlson Creek, which empties into Sunny Cove. Carlson Creek is a wide, shallow, fast moving stream with numerous pools, a rocky bottom, and large boulders. A power line passes the north side of the cove but is not too obtrusive. Relatively flat banks above the creek make for easy walking.
Historical Use	There was no reported commercial use of Sunny Cove during 1999-2001.
Access	The cove has a muddy tide flat at low tide and is rockier up the beach. The forest on the north side is poor for walking and the private parcel would have to be skirted. The timber is better on the south side and it would be easier to access more of the site. The creek is not fordable except with hip waders.
Facilities	A power line runs through the area.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	This area provides wildlife and wildflower viewing, fishing, hiking, and bird watching opportunities. Access to National Forest lands is along the tide flat. There are two small privately owned parcels in the cove.
Attractions	Carlson Creek is a very large scenic creek. There are excellent views of the mountains across Taku Inlet. This area offers easy walking through bear paths, beach grass, and some rocks.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian • Guided use must not trespass on private land.
Other Management Plans	Juneau State Land Plan (DNR), Region 14, Designation Habitat

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
Large Group Area
Use Area 01-04C SUNNY COVE



Large Group Area Boundary
Streams
Existing Road



Non National Forest Land
Wilderness
Outside of Project Area



Salt and Fresh Water
Recreation Cabin
Marine Access Point



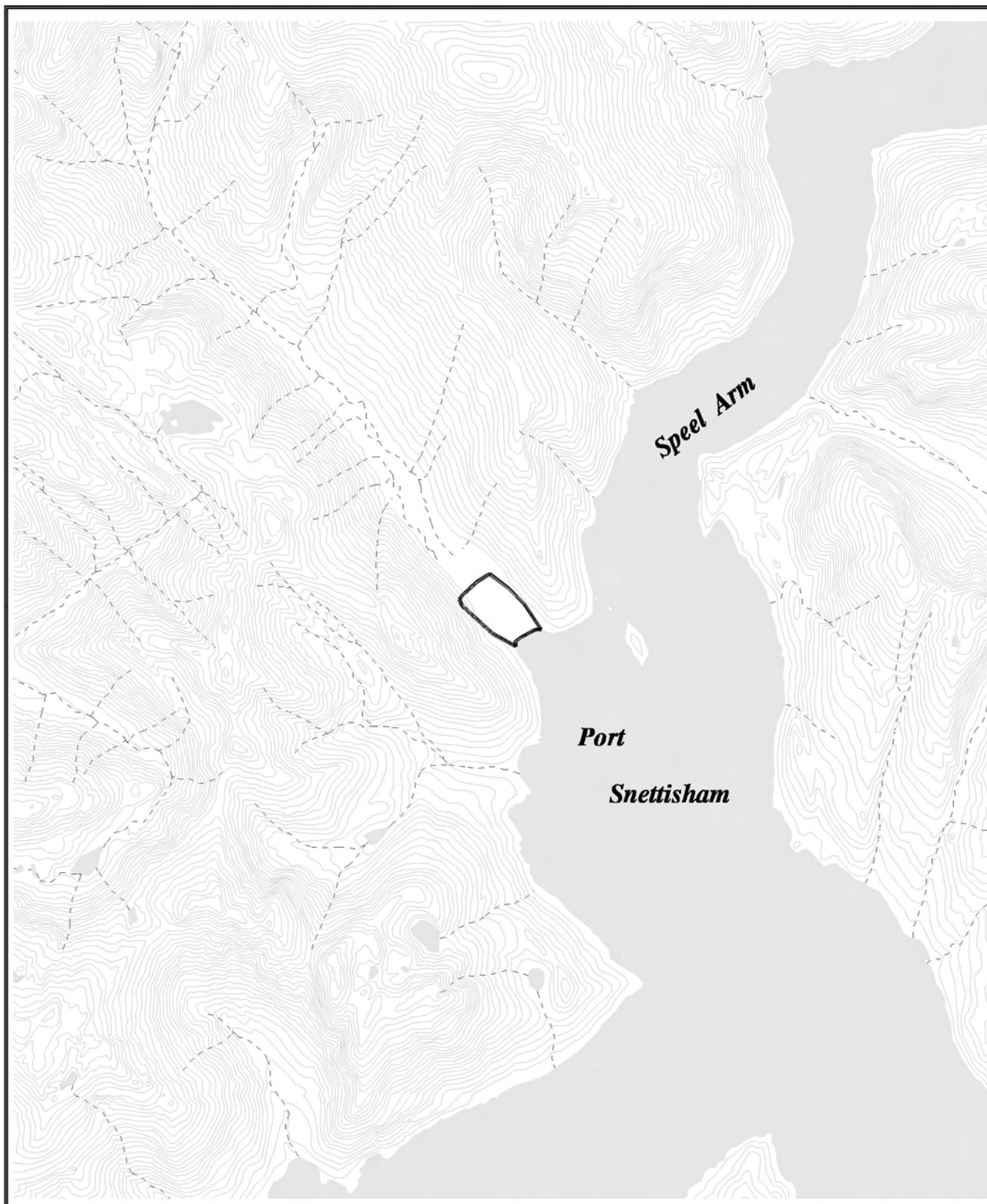
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Mallard Cove Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 01-05B Modified Landscape Roaded Natural/ Semi-Primitive Motorized 96
General Characteristics	This site is a long tidal slough that turns into marshy grassland. Prospect Creek forks in several places in this grassland with beaver ponds approximately one mile inland. The Snettisham power line passes by the opening of Mallard Cove and the related timber harvest is visible with the overhead power lines. There is an excellent view up Prospect Creek into the valley.
Historical Use	Commercial outfitter/guides used this area during 1999-2001.
Access	The area just outside the tree line is probably the best for walking, though there are animal trails that can be followed under the tree canopy. Portions of the tide flat are soft, making walking somewhat difficult. The creek is wide and deep enough to land small boats at a variety of tidal phases.
Facilities	None
Concerns and/or Opportunities	A seal haul-out exists on the rocks northwest and to the south of Fannie Island.
Attractions	This area has an interesting tidal slough and a chance to walk in the large meadow, in addition to wildlife and wildflower viewing opportunities.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marine mammals ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian ○ Cultural resources
Other Management Plans	Juneau State Land Plan (DNR), Region 15, Designation Habitat and Harvest, Recreation and Tourism (dispersed)

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05B MALLARD COVE



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



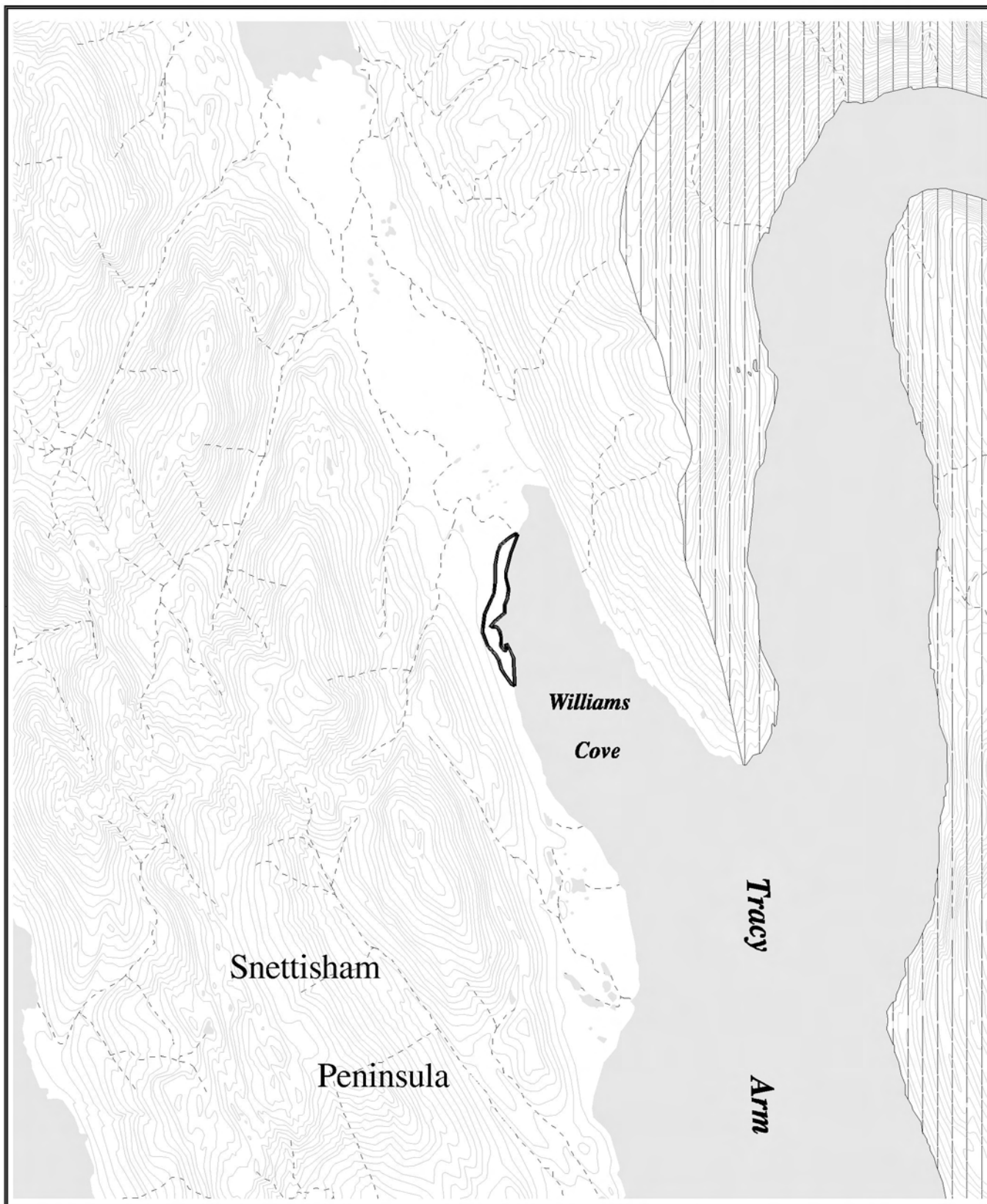
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Williams Cove Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area ROS LUD Acres	Enclave 01-05B Semi-Primitive Motorized Semi-Remote Recreation 64
General Characteristics	<p>Williams Cove is on the northern side of the entrance to Tracy Arm between No Name Cove and the Wilderness area boundary. Most of the cove has flat ground, with an upland terrace beyond the tree line along the beach. Mature trees provide shelter from weather and views of the iceberg outflow from the fiord. A large, shallow rocky creek flows into the cove at the north end. A pioneer foot trail enters the woods near another small creek near the southern boundary. Icebergs frequently circulate through the cove, which receives mostly day use from boaters due to ice movement through the cove.</p>
Historical Use	Commercial outfitter/guides used this area during 1999-2001.
Access	The best anchorage and beach is in the vicinity of the isthmus. This area is an anchorage for a few boats using Tracy Arm.
Facilities	None
Attractions	<p>This area offers a fair anchorage, wildlife and wildflower viewing. Icebergs coming out of Tracy Arm run aground here, providing visitors with a close view. Proximity to Tracy Arm/Fords Terror Wilderness Area allows for a boat trip up the fiord and a shore excursion on the same day.</p>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian ○ Cultural resources • No large group camping. • No consumptive uses by large groups.
Other Management Plans	Juneau State Land Plan (DNR), Region 15, Designation General Use

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05B WILLIAMS COVE



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



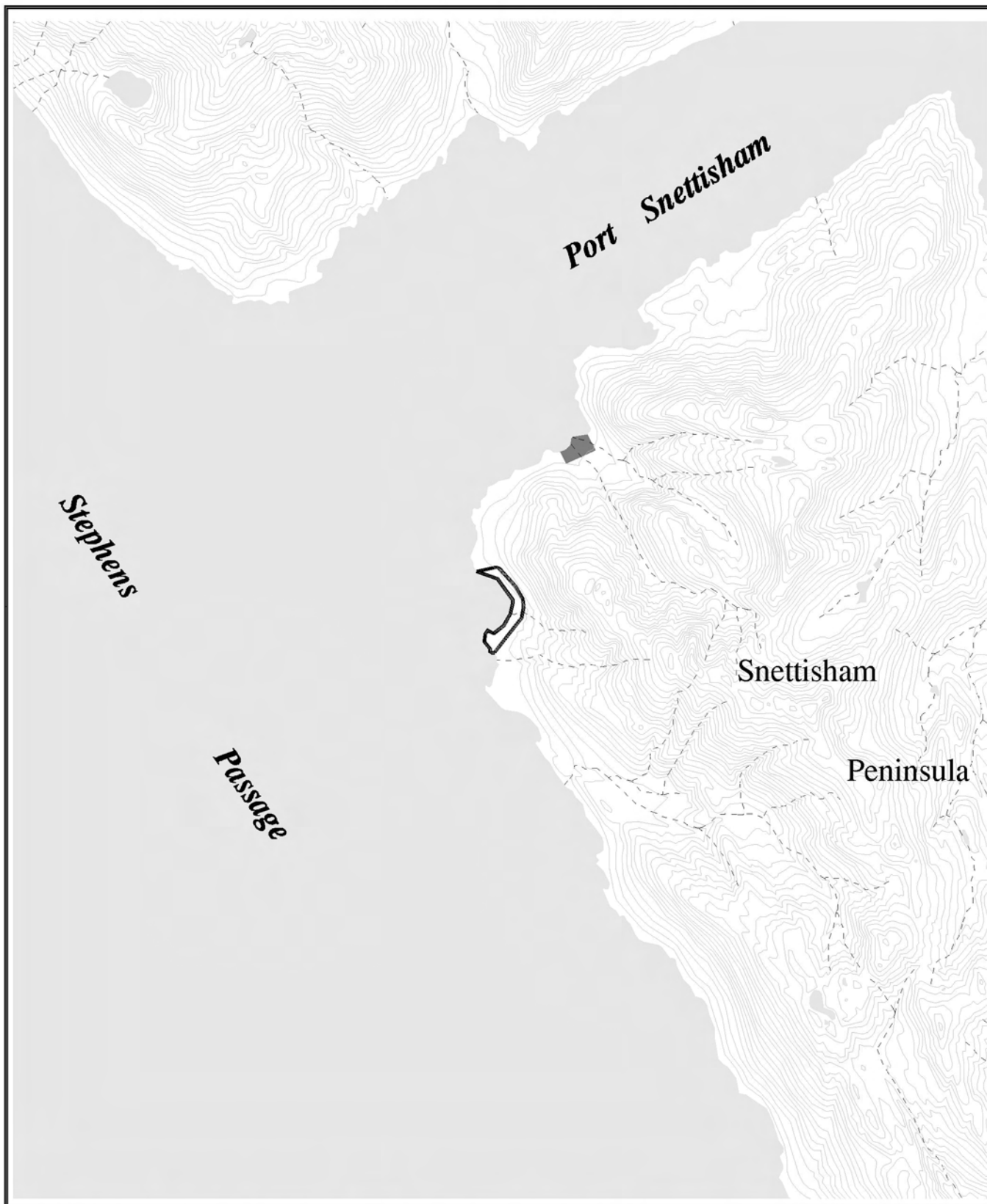
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Point Anmer Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	01-05B
LUD	Scenic Viewshed
ROS	Semi-Primitive Motorized
Acres	37
General Characteristics	This northwest-facing cove is about ¼ mile wide and about ½ mile north of Point Anmer. Dense shrub patches characterize shoreline in this area with large spruce trees just off the beach fringe. At the outermost edge of the thicket is a forested point of land with large spruce and exposed roots that follow a rocky outcrop towards the beach.
Historical Use	There was no reported commercial use during 1999-2001. The area receives some unguided use.
Access	Low tide exposes a sandy bottom on the south end and a rocky beach at the north end. The southern beach is flatter but has thick vegetation. A small, steeper sand beach just to the south of the rock outcrop provides good access, although this beach is more exposed to the southeast winds. The beach receives high storm waves.
Facilities	None
Attractions	The upper beach area provides wildflower viewing and vistas of the ocean. Opportunity to view vegetation successional stages from shrubs to old growth spruce forest. Rock outcroppings also provide visual diversity. Tide pools support many shorebirds. A large waterfall is visible offshore south of Point Anmer.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Vegetation
Other Management Plans	Juneau State Land Plan (DNR), Region 15, Designation Habitat and Harvest, Recreation and Tourism (dispersed)

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05B POINT ANMER



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

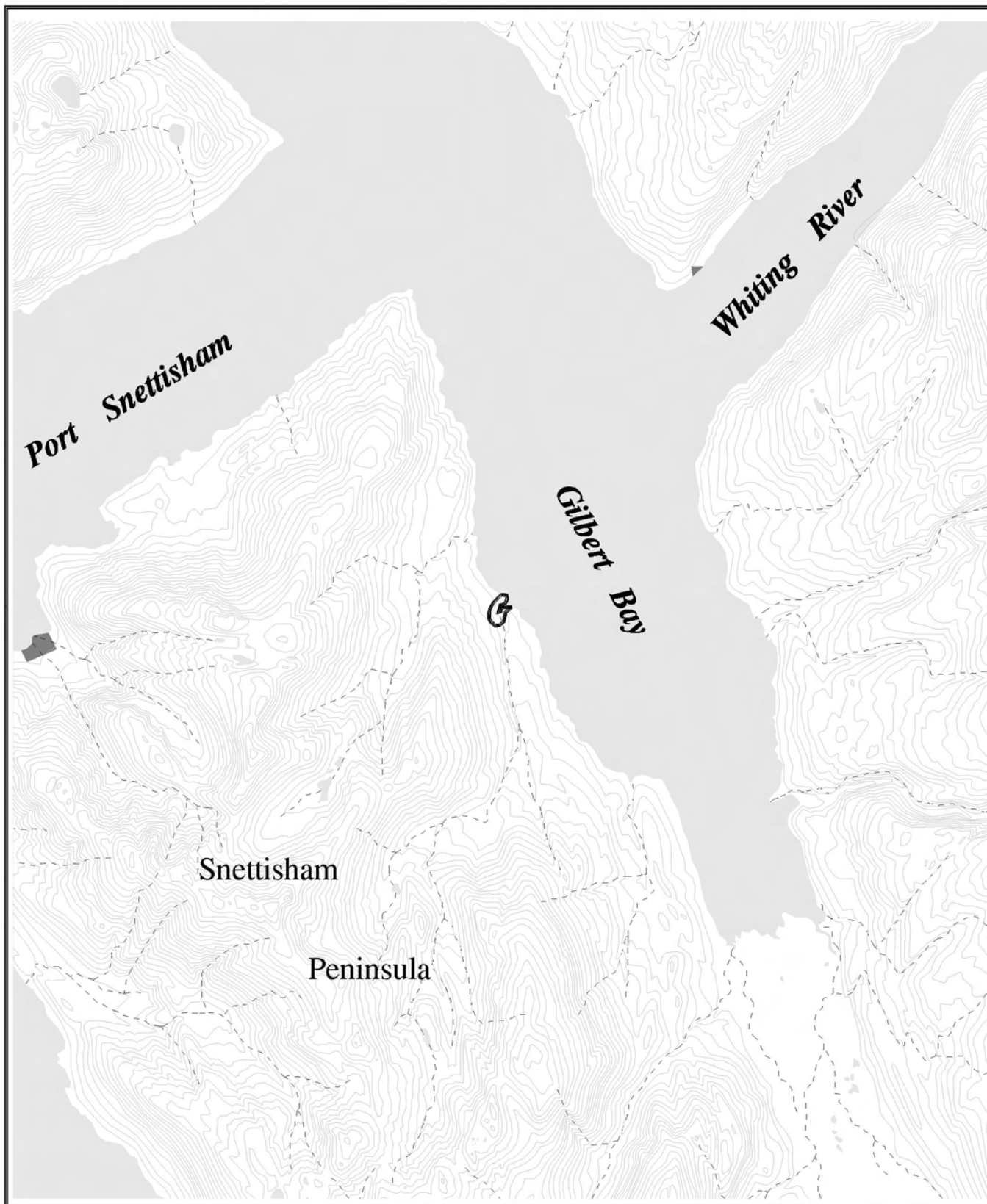
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
West Gilbert Bay Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 01-05B Timber Production Semi-Primitive Motorized 12
General Characteristics	Located directly across from the Whiting River in Gilbert Bay. The creek has river cobble and small pools, and is fordable at many locations. It is possible to follow the creek along its bank during low water conditions, providing a view of a forested stream for an extended distance. On the northern side of the creek there are large trees with an open understory and relatively flat ground.
Historical Use	Commercial groups used Gilbert Bay during 1999-2001.
Access	The relatively shallow beach has large cobble rocks.
Facilities	None
Concerns and/or Opportunities	The site is adjacent to a salmon stream.
Attractions	Wildlife viewing, walking through the forest or along the creek side channels during low flows
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian
Other Management Plans	Juneau State Land Plan (DNR), Region 15, Designation Habitat and Harvest, Recreation and Tourism (dispersed)

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05B WEST GILBERT BAY



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



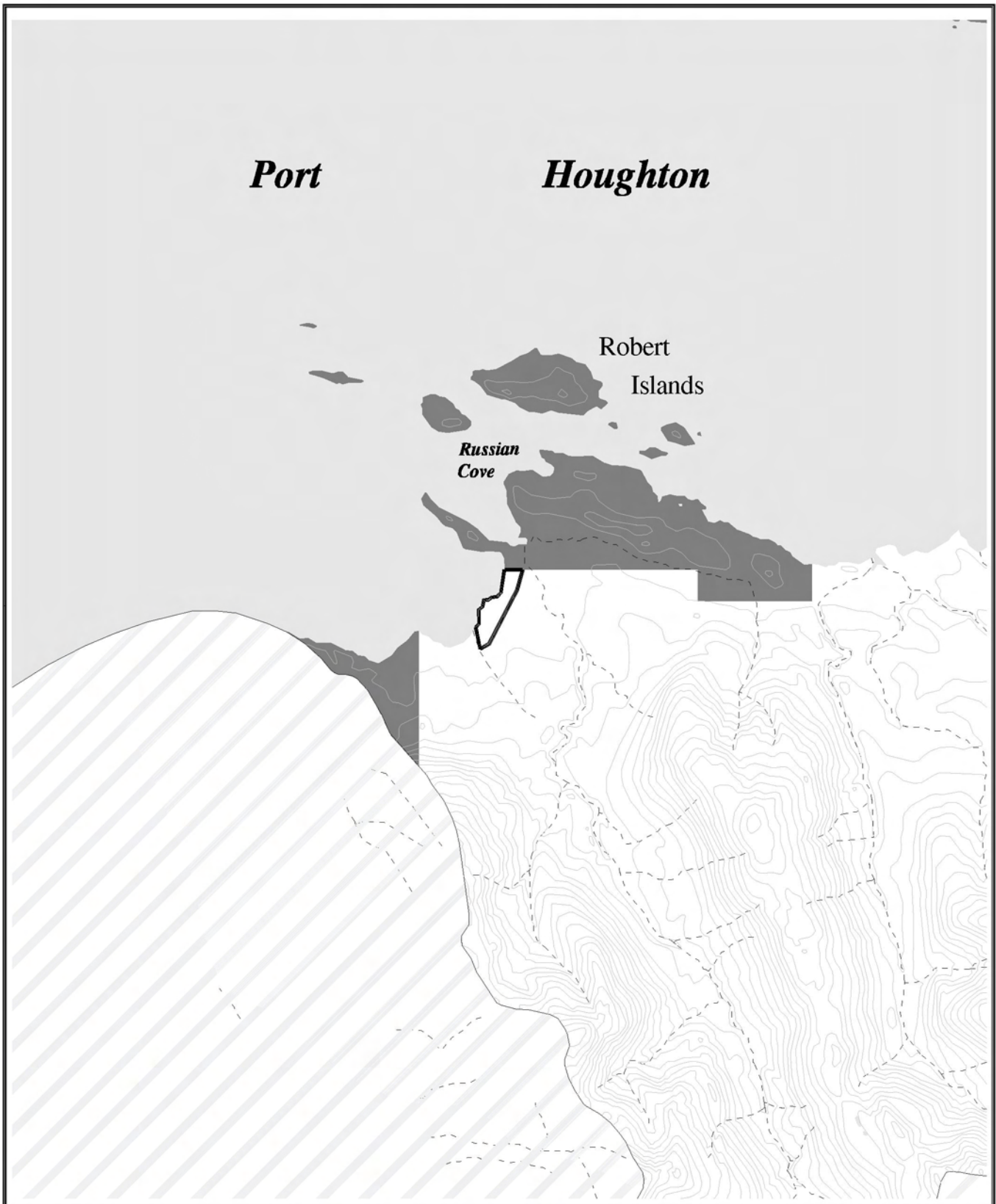
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Fanshaw Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 01-05C Scenic Viewshed Semi-Primitive Motorized 48
General Characteristics	<p>This cove is over a mile wide. A tree-covered peninsula allows for views to the north with another smaller cove providing wildlife viewing opportunities. Topography in the area is flat to benched, with gently rolling terrain. Primarily a forested area with open understory, there are occasional patches of dense trees, brush and small meadows. The southeast corner of the cove has a small creek with flatter ground and good visibility.</p>
Historical Use	<p>Commercial use did not occur here during 1999-2001. There has been some timber harvest. Remnants of an old dock and pilings are adjacent to the area.</p>
Access	<p>Shoreline on the south side of the cove is rocky and very slippery. To the north, the shoreline is sandy at low tide, , but more difficulty to access by boat or plane.</p>
Facilities	<p>None</p>
Concerns and/or Opportunities	<p>Opportunities for wildlife viewing, fishing, and beach walking exist. There is high plant diversity with beach rye grass, wildflowers, and forest. State lands are adjacent.</p>
Attractions	<p>The beach walking with ample opportunities to walk in the woods along the tree line. Evidence of historic beach logging is found throughout the cove but is most prevalent in the center. From the peninsula, it is possible to get elevated views of the adjoining small cove. A salmon stream abuts the north side of the peninsula, where it is possible to get good views of the tide flat, Point Walpole, and Crow Island.</p>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Marine mammals ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian ○ Cultural resources • Guided use on state land must be authorized by the state.
Other Management Plans	<p>Central/Southern Southeast Plan (DNR), Region 15, Designation General Use</p>

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05C FANSHAW



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



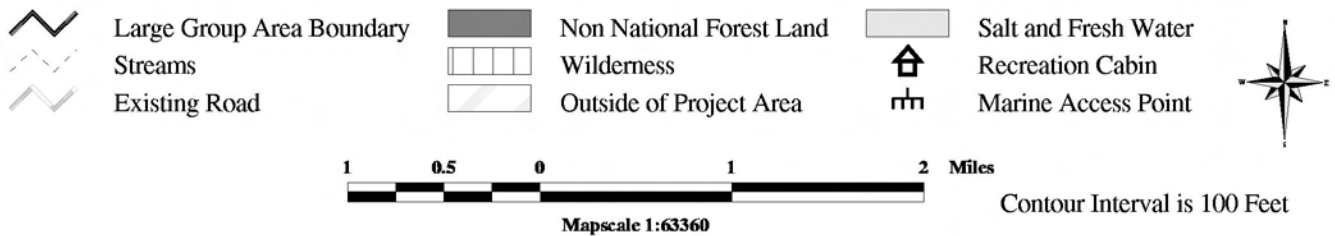
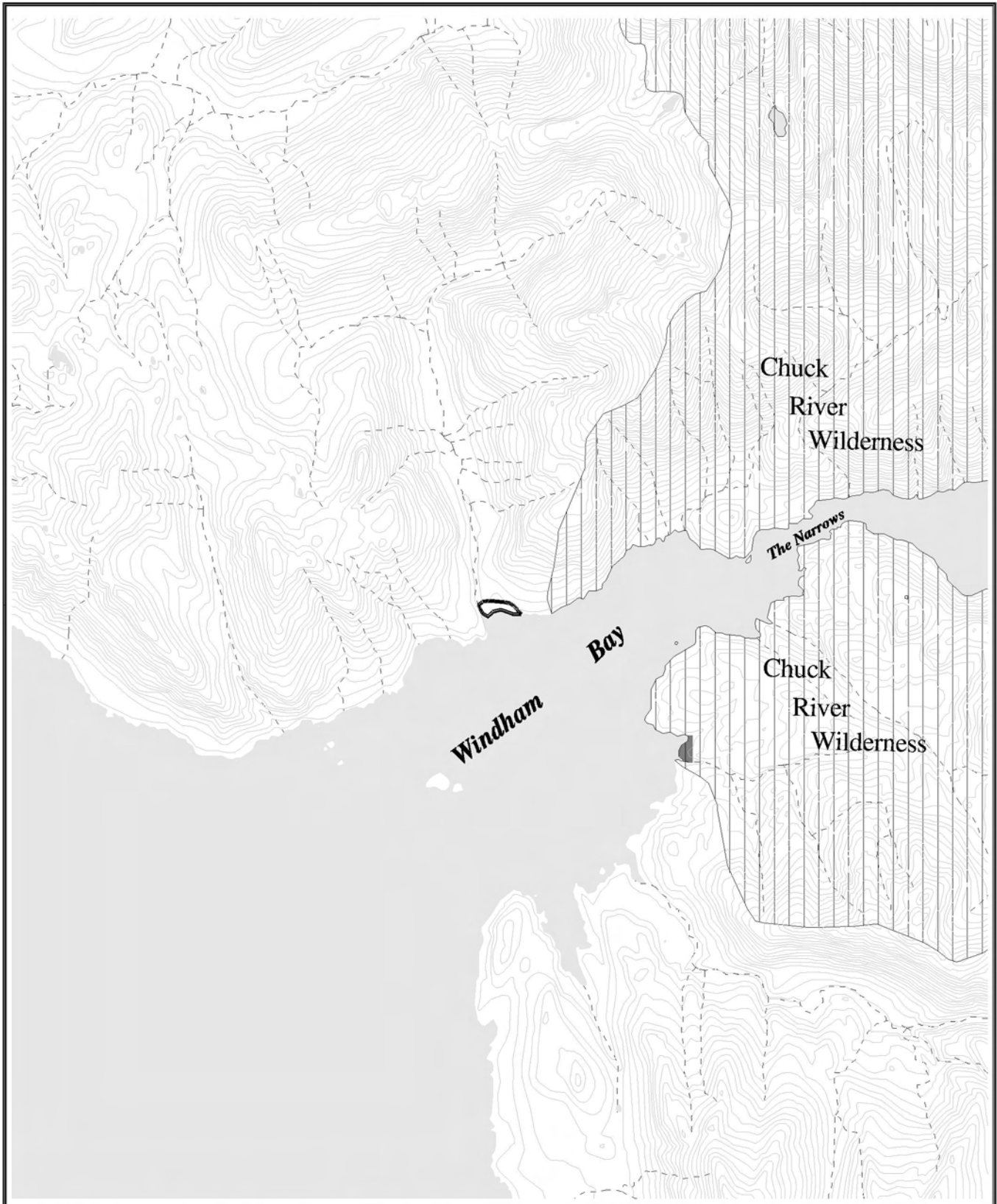
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
North Windham Bay Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	01-05C
LUD	Scenic Viewshed
ROS	Semi-Primitive Motorized
Acres	12
General Characteristics	Located on the east side of Stephens Passage and directly east of the entrance Seymour Canal. A large salmon-bearing creek flows into the site from the north. The beach is sandy and grassy with a berry thicket and wildflowers above tide line. Beyond the tide line a flat valley contains young trees and man-made openings. This site is within ½ mile of the Chuck River Wilderness boundary.
Historical Use	Commercial outfitter/guides used Windham Bay area during 1999-2001.
Access	Access by plane or boat is possible, though this would probably not be a good location for an anchorage due to exposure.
Facilities	None
Concerns and/or Opportunities	The west side of the area has a fox farm cabin and related remains. This site has an Eligible determination for the National Register of Historic Places. It offers interpretive opportunities. There are other cultural sites in the area as well. There are some places where wet soils would not stand up well to heavy foot traffic.
Attractions	This is an excellent south facing location with a good beach. The creek may provide salmon viewing and fishing opportunities, coupled with views across the bay and rock grottos on the east side of the site. Wildlife viewing, beach combing, and limited hiking are possible here. A bear trail was noted from the beach into the woods.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation ○ Cultural resources • The fox farm site will have a management plan covering protection, interpretation, and monitoring in place before guided use is permitted at the site. • Other cultural sites are excluded from guided use.
Other Management Plans	Central/Southern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Region 1—Sumdum North, Designation Habitat and Harvest

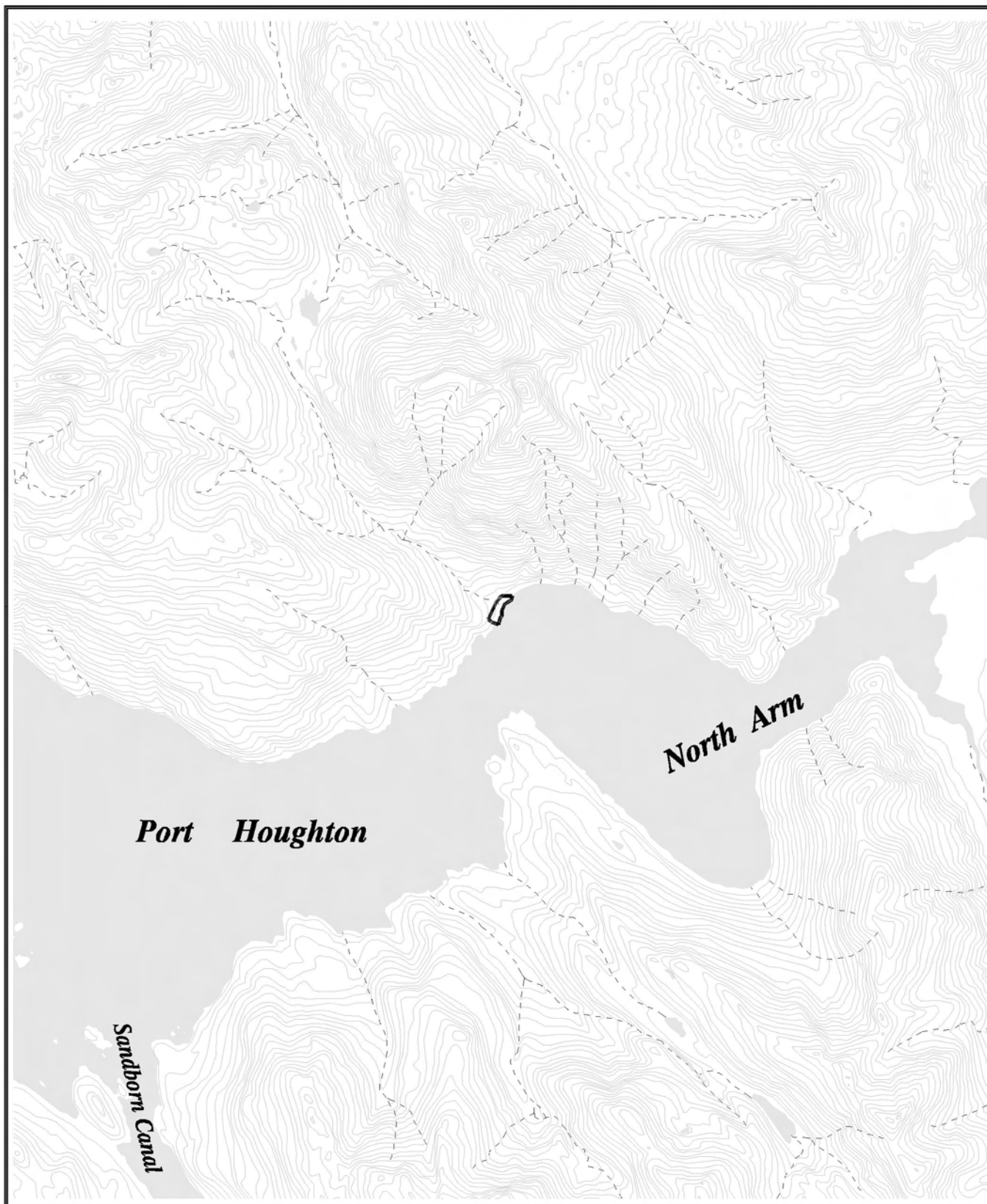
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05C NORTH WINDHAM BAY



Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Port Houghton Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 01-05C Scenic Viewshed Semi-Primitive Motorized 10
General Characteristics	<p>This site is located on the north side of Port Houghton. This is a small, distinct location due to the steep terrain surrounding the area. A large creek is present and there are small openings inside the tree line on both sides of the creek. The area contains an old slide that has been colonized by alder and open canopy, creating an attractive light understory.</p>
Historical Use	Commercial outfitter/guides used Port Houghton during 1999-2001.
Access	A steep rocky beach provides access to the site. Access along both sides of the creek beyond initial entry into the woods is difficult due to thick brush and downed trees.
Facilities	None
Attractions	This area has a scenic a stream with plunge pools. The site offers nice views across Port Houghton as well as a large waterfall dropping over a cliff just to the east of the creek.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Marine mammals ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation
Other Management Plans	Central/Southern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Region 1—Sumdum South, Designation General Use

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05C PORT HOUGHTON



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



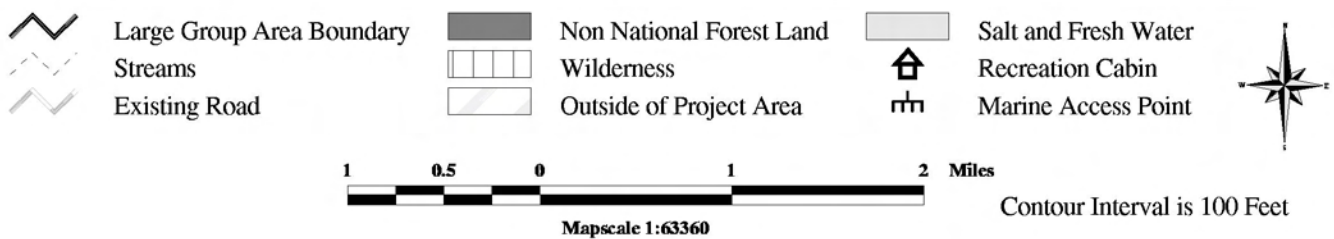
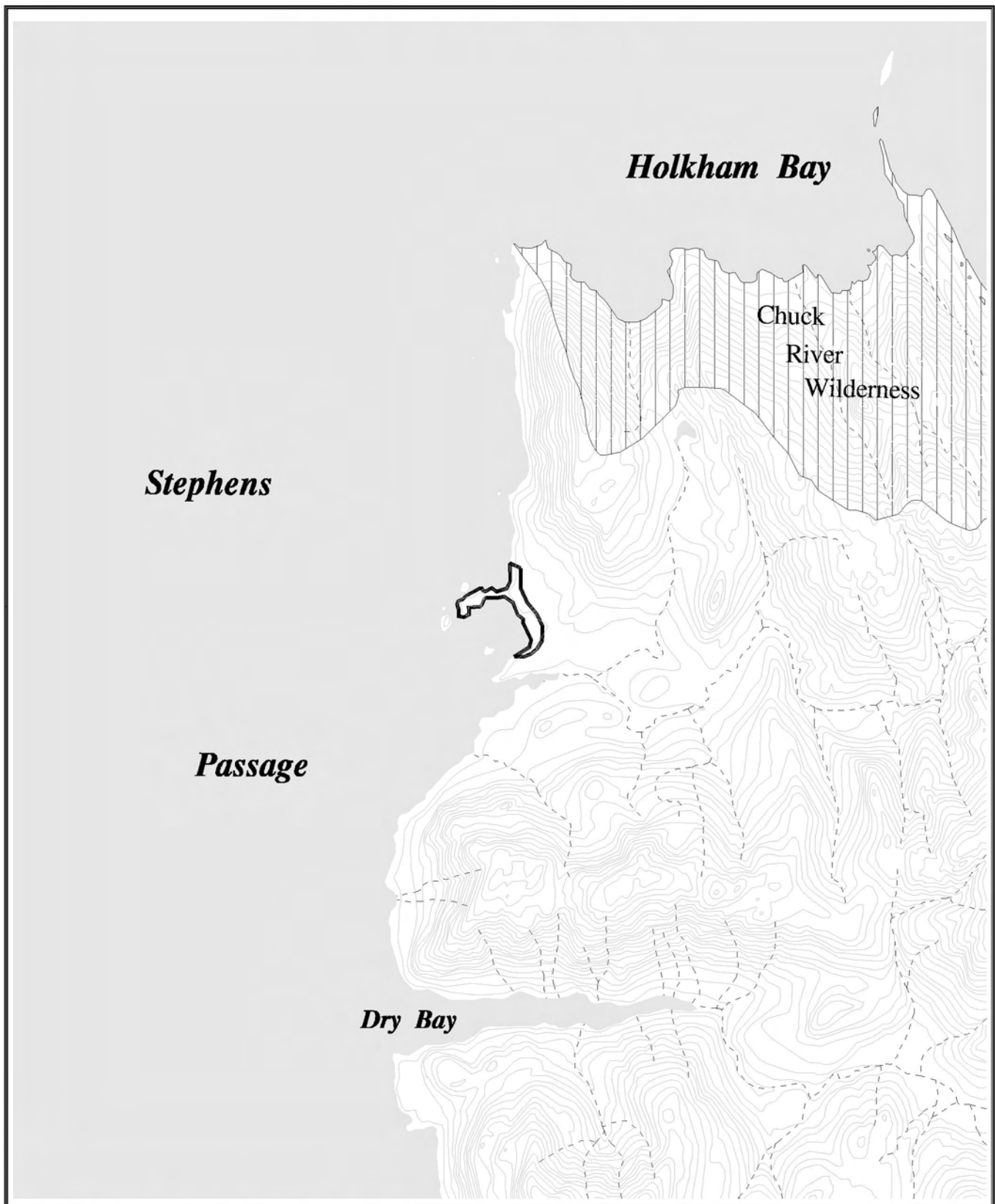
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Sand Bay Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 01-05C Scenic Viewshed Semi-Primitive Motorized 59
General Characteristics	<p>This site is located in a “u-shaped” cove with the enclave located on the north peninsula extending south down the cove approximately ¼ mile. A fine sand beach and a relatively flat area above the river mouth provide for easy walking along the shoreline. It is possible to cross the peninsula and view the adjacent cove to the north. There are large mature trees inland, and visibility under the tree canopy is good.</p>
Historical Use	Commercial outfitter/guides used Sand Bay during the 1999-2001 seasons.
Access	There is a rolling sandy beach with some cobble. The area is exposed to weather from Stephens Passage and Frederick Sound.
Facilities	None
Concerns	There are three cultural sites in the area.
Attractions	<p>There is a good view across Stephens Passage. The area is relatively close to the Tracy Arm – Fords Terror Wilderness allowing for a day trip in the fiord and a shore excursion outside the wilderness. In good weather the scenic setting and varied shoreline would provide a suitable location for kayaking.</p>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation ○ Waterfowl (No large group use 7/1 through 9/15 for protection of molting birds) • No large group camping. • No consumptive uses by large groups. • Cultural sites will be excluded from guided use. These sites will be monitored. If impacts are detected, additional restrictions will be placed on guided use.
Other Management Plans	Central/Southern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Region 1—Sumdum South, Designation Habitat and Harvest

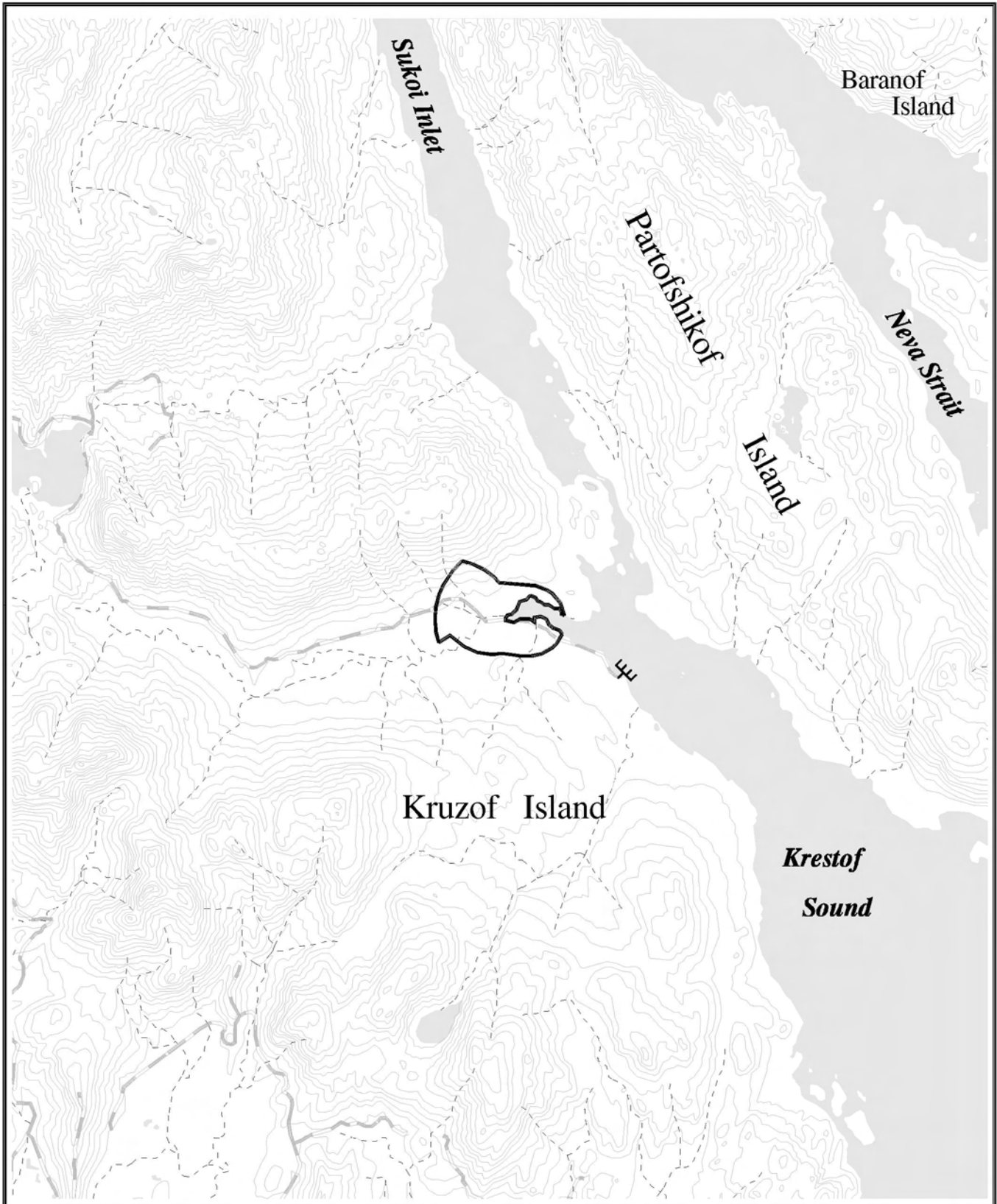
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05C SAND BAY



Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Eagle River Road Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	04-03
LUD	Semi-Remote Recreation, Timber Production
ROS	Roaded Modified, Semi-primitive Motorized
Acres	251
General Characteristics	The area is roaded through old growth forest with recent timber harvest in the vicinity. Along the road are a large meadow, muskeg, and a stream.
Historical Use	Commercial outfitting/guiding occurred here during the 1999-2001 seasons.
Access	The anchorage is protected during most weather conditions. There is an easy landing at the marine access point or along the beach depending on the tidal stage.
Facilities	There is a road and a marine access point.
Attractions	Opportunity to view wildlife and fish. A large riparian area and estuary offers excellent bird and waterfowl watching opportunities.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation ○ Brown bear viewing • Guided activities must not interfere with other forest management activities.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Baranof Island Area, Designation General Use

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-03 EAGLE RIVER ROAD



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



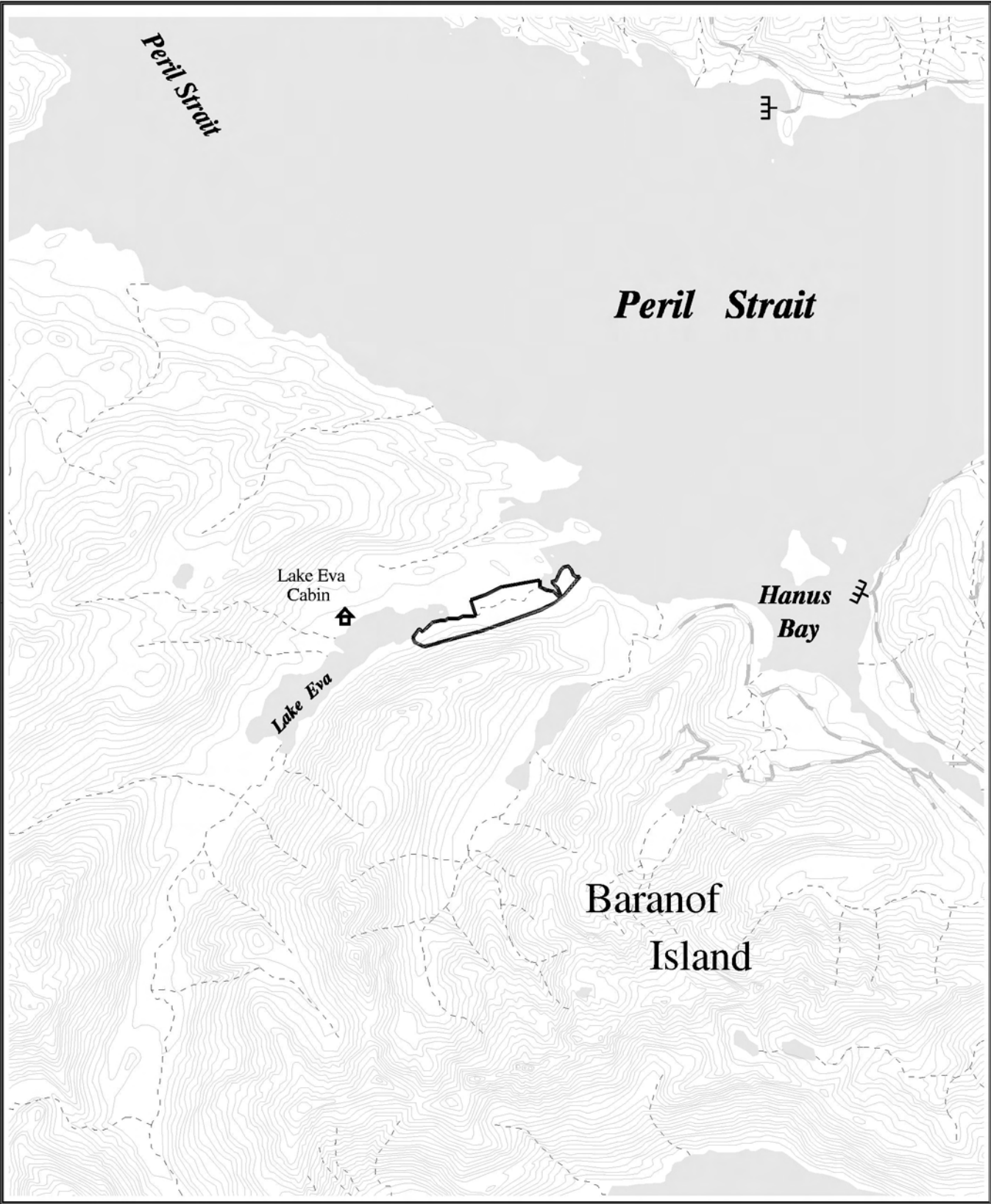
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Lake Eva Trail Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-04A Semi-Remote Recreation Semi-Primitive Motorized 132
General Characteristics	<p>This area is a good example of streamside old growth forest. Some very large trees make it an area of particular interest. The trail to Lake Eva is a good for accessing the interior forest as well as the shoreline. Salmon are visible during the mid- and late summer moving up the stream and over the waterfalls. Brown bears feeding on salmon frequent the area. Forest and water birds are usually seen and heard in the spring. Many flowers grow in the meadow and beach fringe vegetation in the early summer.</p>
Historical Use	Commercial outfitter/guides used this area during 1999-2001.
Access	<p>The anchorage is protected from most directions except easterlies. A skiff can land at the trailhead on small sandy beach, and can get to shore in most tide stages. At high tide skiffs can land a short distance below the falls at the estuary.</p>
Facilities	Trail to Lake Eva
Concerns and/or Opportunities	<p>The trail is in poor shape and very muddy in places. A grove of large trees is easily accessed by the trail. There is an important subsistence sockeye stream.</p>
Attractions	A trail leads inland along a salmon stream and through some old growth forest with large trees.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Marine mammals ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation ○ Subsistence • Lake Eva trail will need improvement before additional guided use is permitted. • Outfitter/guides will not be allowed to fly clients into Lake Eva.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Baranof Island Area, Designation Undeveloped Public Recreation and Tourism, Habitat

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
Large Group Area
Use Area 04-04A LAKE EVA TRAIL



Large Group Area Boundary
Streams
Existing Road



Non National Forest Land
Wilderness
Outside of Project Area



Salt and Fresh Water
Recreation Cabin
Marine Access Point



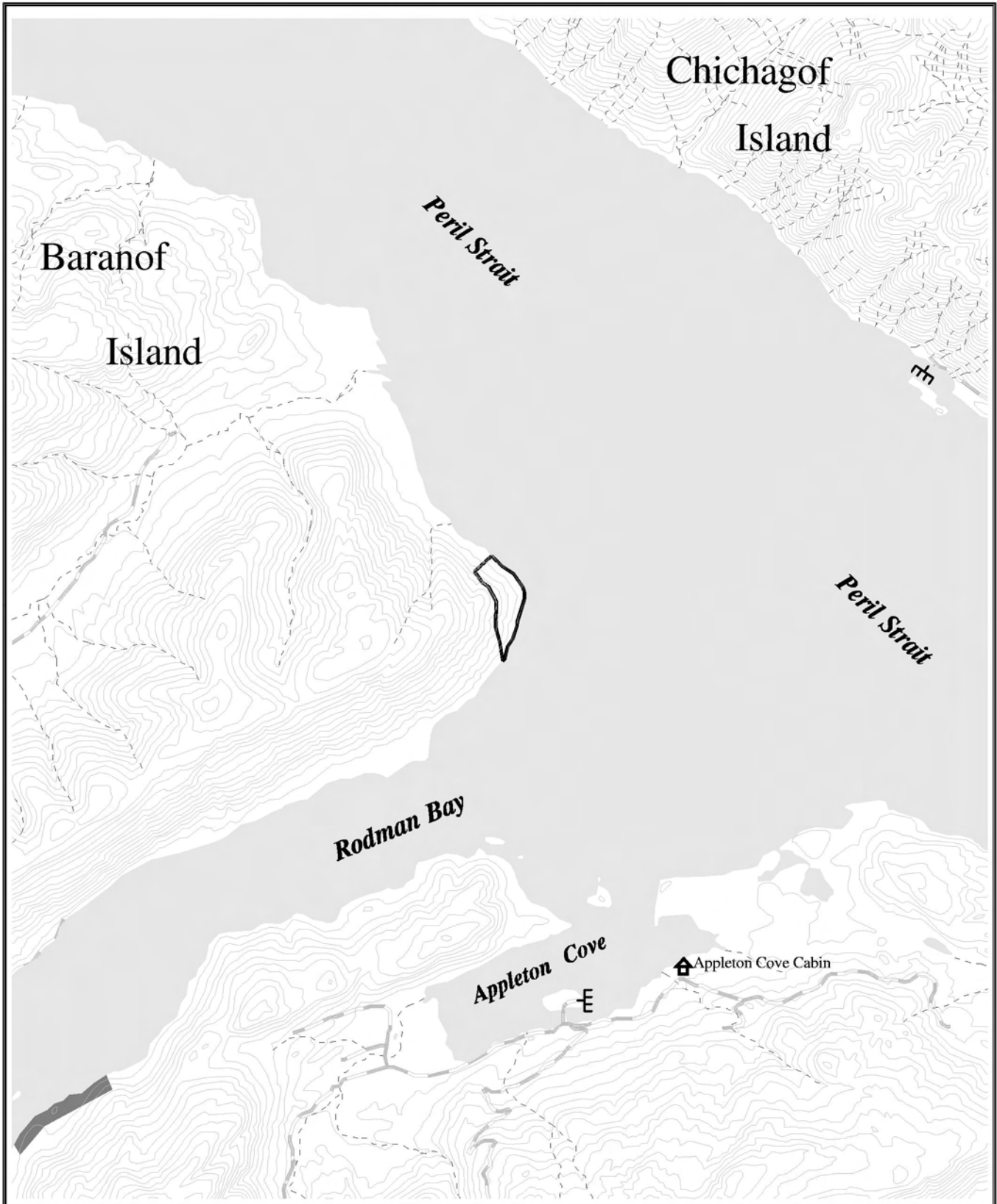
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Point Elizabeth Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-04A Timber Production Roaded Modified 72
General Characteristics	<p>The immediate area is forested. A small bight of land to the west provides some protection for anchoring. Timber harvest is evident in the vicinity. Walking along the forest edge and inside the beach fringe is possible along wildlife trails. Beach fringes have large Sitka Spruce and small root mass ponds with interesting vegetation and successional stages. Intertidal life along the pebble shoreline can be viewed at low tide.</p>
Historical Use	<p>Commercial outfitting and guiding did not occur here during 1999-2001.</p>
Access	<p>The anchorage is exposed on Peril Straits but is suitable in good weather. Skiffs can land along the pebble beach; the exact location depends on the tide stage.</p>
Facilities	<p>None</p>
Attractions	<p>A nice small beach can be walked at low tide. There is a large beach fringe forest.</p>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian ○ Brown bear viewing
Other Management Plans	<p>Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Baranof Island Area, Designation General Use</p>

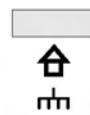
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-04A POINT ELIZABETH



Large Group Area Boundary
 Streams
 Existing Road



Non National Forest Land
 Wilderness
 Outside of Project Area



Salt and Fresh Water
 Recreation Cabin
 Marine Access Point



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



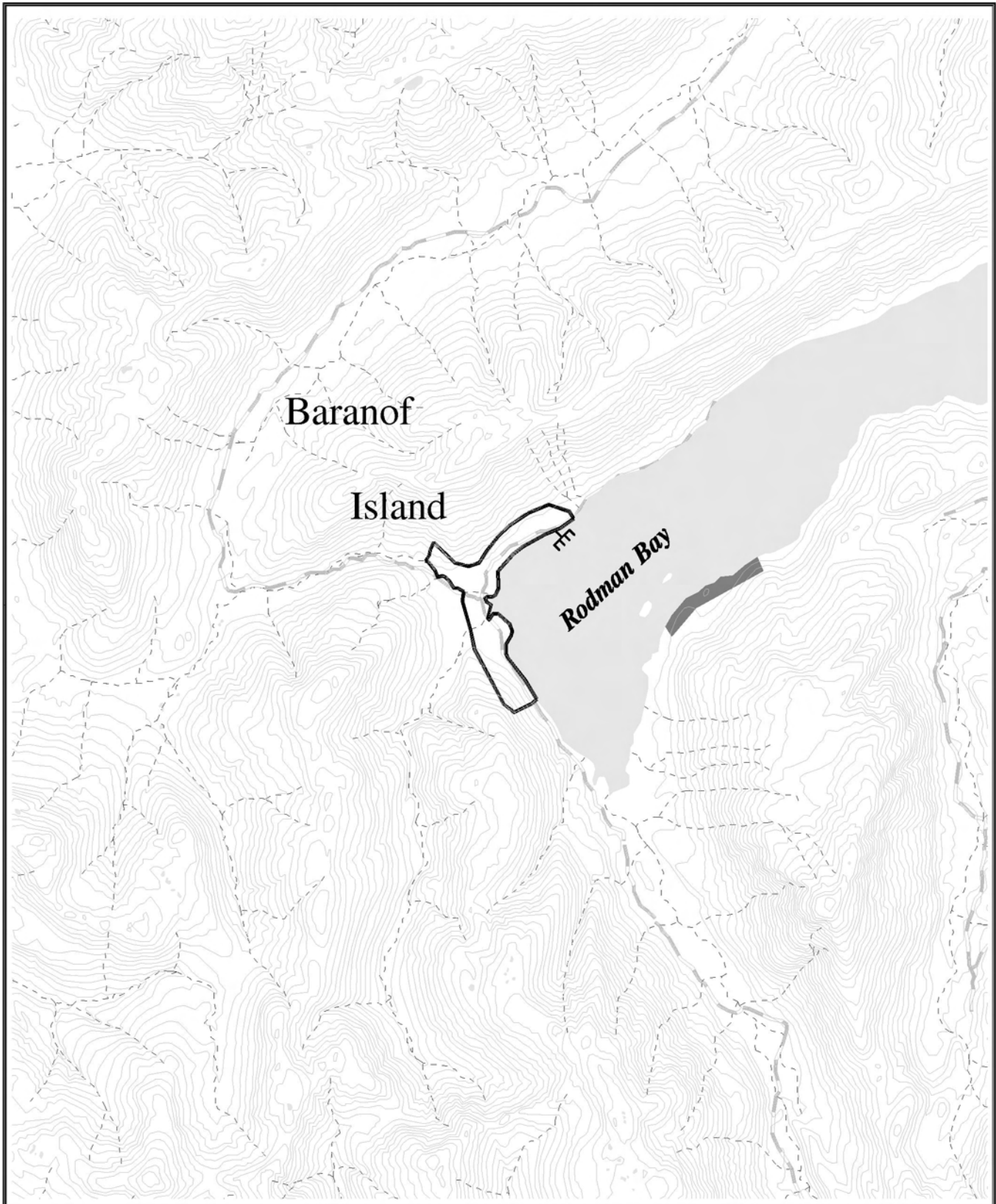
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Rodman Bay Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-04A Timber Production Roaded Modified 252
General Characteristics	The area was harvested in the 1960's. The harvested areas are regenerating with spruce and hemlock and the road is overgrown with alder.
Historical Use	Logging took place in the 1960's. Commercial outfitter/guides used this area during the 1999-2001 season.
Access	The anchorage is protected during most weather conditions. Skiffs can land on the beach at most tidal stages.
Facilities	Road, marine access point
Attractions	Wildlife viewing, hiking on the beach and road
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian • Guided activities must not interfere with other forest management activities.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Baranof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-04A RODMAN BAY



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



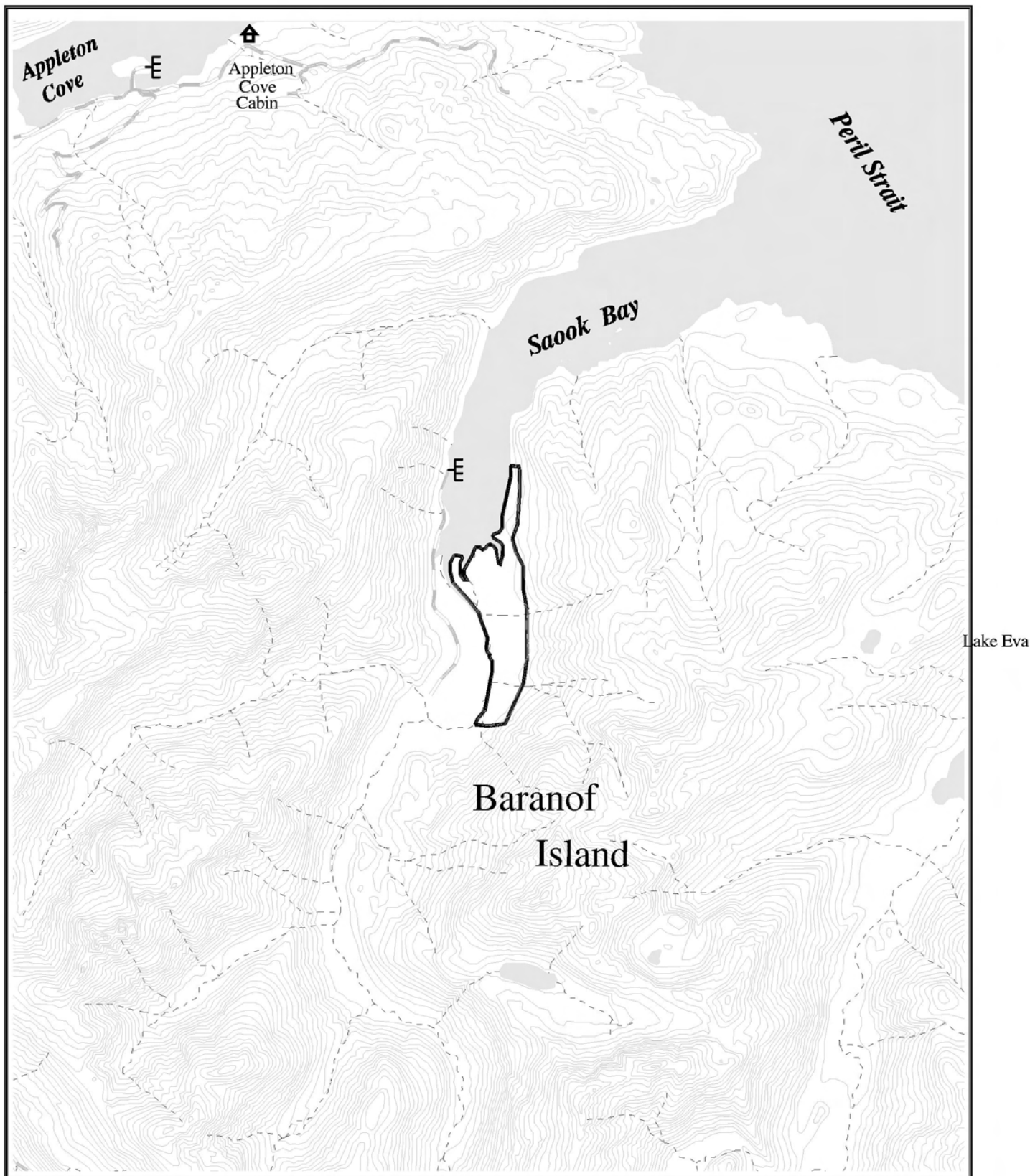
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Saook Bay Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-04A Timber Production Roaded Modified 300
General Characteristics	Broad meadows at end of fjord provide easy walking. Flowers and vegetation are plentiful in the early summer. There is a wildlife trail through large stand of trees at the head of the meadow, and bear trails with obvious footprint paths. Salmon are present in a stream in the late summer. There has been timber harvest in the vicinity.
Historical Use	Commercial outfitter/guides used this area during the 1999-2001 seasons.
Access	The anchorage is protected during most weather conditions. Skiffs can land on the west side of the meadows next to a small stream.
Facilities	None
Attractions	Meadows at end of fjord, stand of large trees
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Marine mammals ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian ○ Brown bear viewing
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Baranof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-04A SAOOK BAY



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

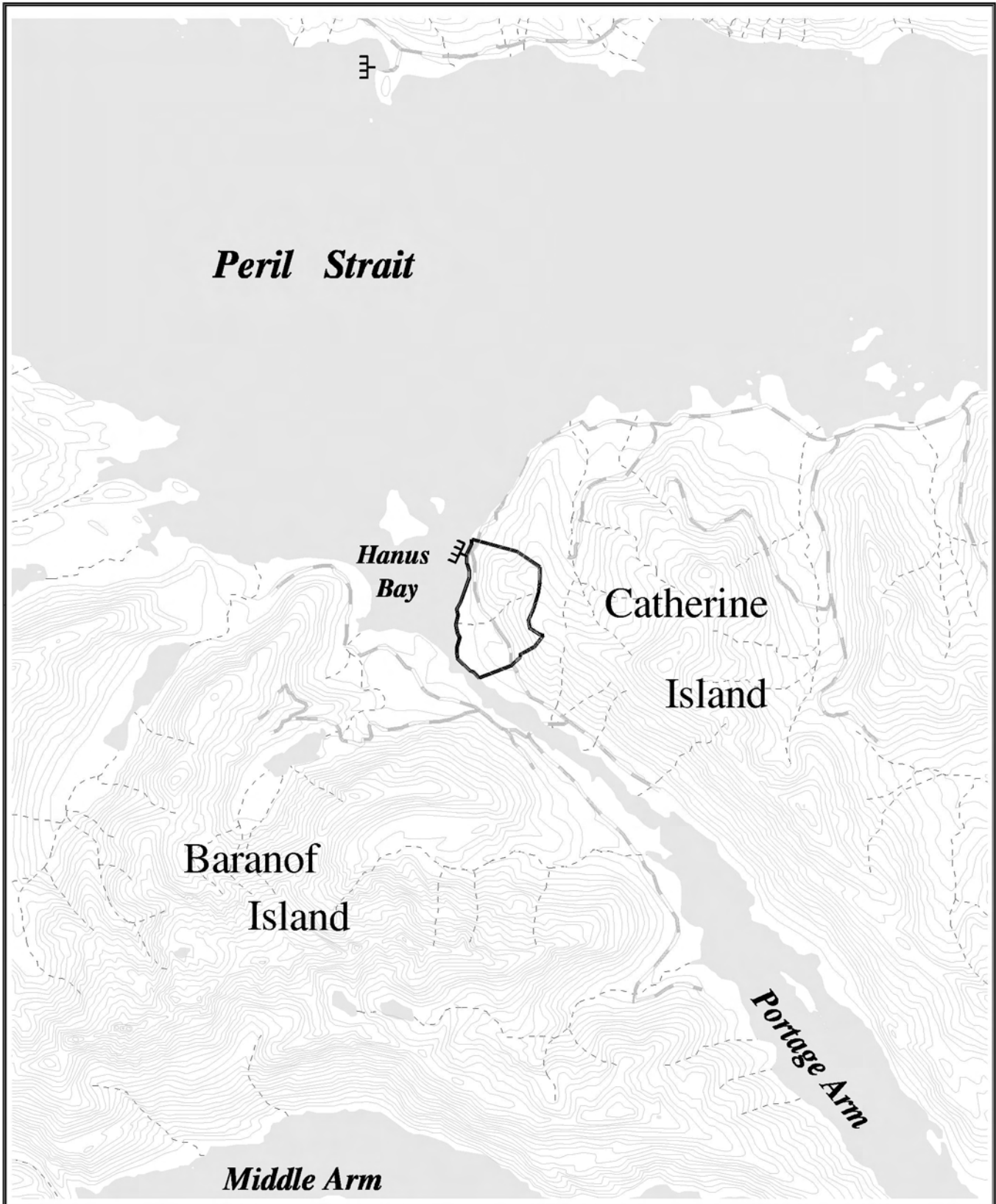
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Hanus Bay Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-04B Scenic Viewshed Roaded Modified 278
General Characteristics	There has been timber harvest in the area. A meadow at the back of the bay reaches through to Portage Arm of Kelp Bay.
Historical Use	Commercial outfitter/guides used this general area during the 1999-2001 seasons.
Access	There is a protected anchorage. Skiff landings on the beach are possible at most tides.
Facilities	Road, marine access point, Forest Science Lab research cabin
Opportunities	Interpretive opportunities for forest succession.
Attractions	Hiking on road, wildlife viewing
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bald eagles • Brown bear viewing • Vegetation • Riparian • Guided activities must not interfere with other forest management activities.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Baranof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-04B HANUS BAY



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

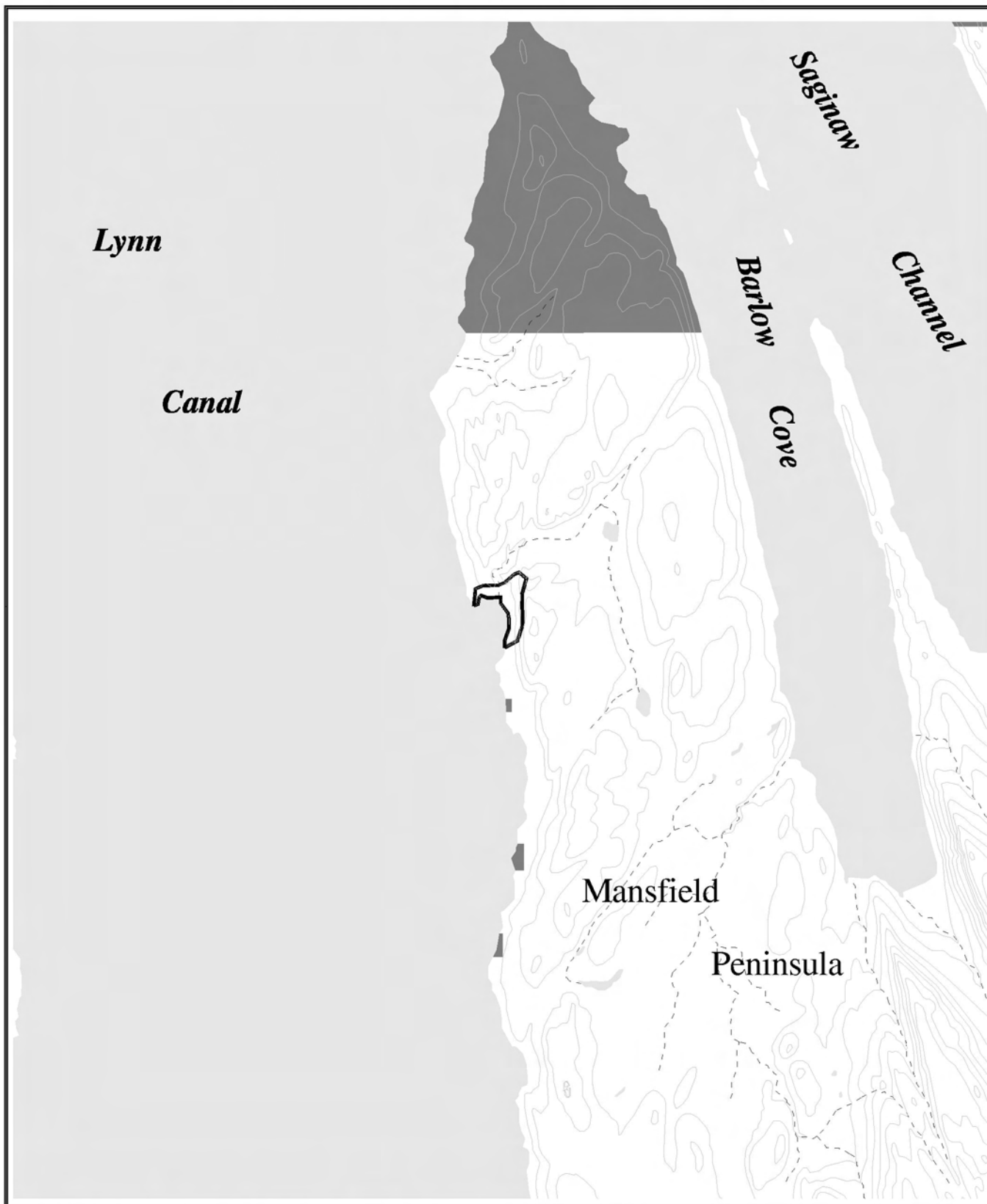
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Cordwood Creek Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-08 Semi-Remote Recreation Semi-Primitive Motorized 48
General Characteristics	Cordwood Creek is a small, tannic creek that drains an inland muskeg lake on the west side of the Mansfield Peninsula on Admiralty Island. The site generally has a 40-yard-wide flat portion inside the trees that rises steeply to an uplifted beach. Shoreline near the outflow is rocky but becomes flatter with large trees along the shoreline. There is a very narrow fringe of beach grass and forbs between the gravel and tree line for the whole site.
Historical Use	There was no reported commercial use in during 1999-2001. Unguided recreationists use this area. Logging has previously occurred in the area.
Access	Although the cove faces southwest on the east side of Lynn Canal it is large enough to provide some protection. The beach has large cobble and gravel in the central part of the cove.
Facilities	None
Concerns and/or Opportunities	Cordwood Creek is exposed to certain winds.
Attractions	Opportunities for a beach walk on northern Admiralty Island and fishing.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation ○ Bald eagles • Cultural sites will be avoided
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Admiralty Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-08 CORDWOOD CREEK



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



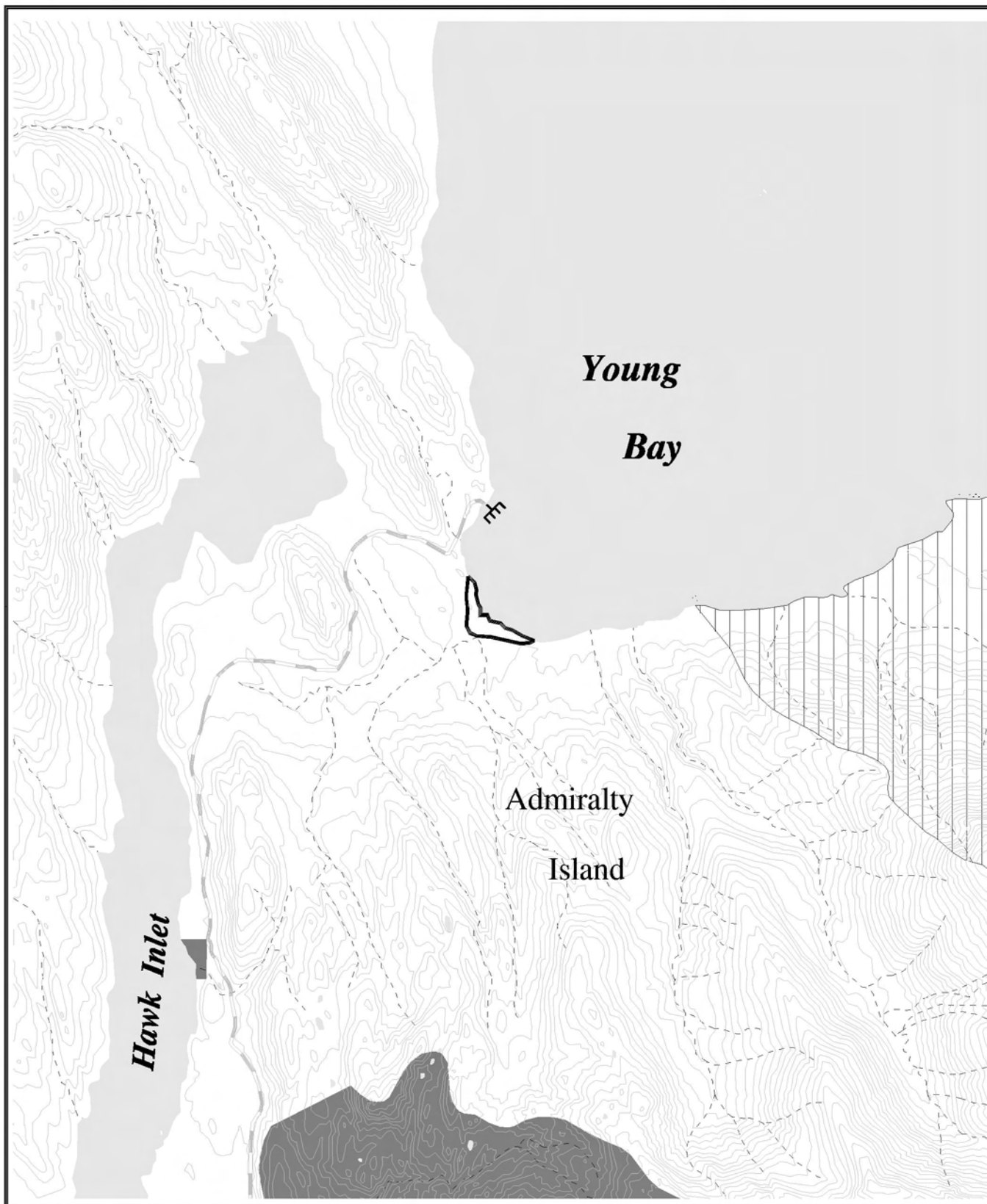
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Fowler Creek Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-08 Semi-Remote Recreation Roaded Natural 42
General Characteristics	<p>This site is located at the base of the Mansfield Peninsula on Admiralty Island, and has a fairly large tide flat of cobble and gravel. Within the tree line there is a flat area, about 20 yards wide, with large trees that slopes to an uplifted beach area. A raised gravel bar at the creek mouth occurs on the north side. To the south is a raised spit further inland that offers a good view upstream, and a large meadow edged by spruce extending into the meadow.</p>
Historical Use	<p>There is no reported commercial use during 1999-2001 and no sign of other use.</p>
Access	<p>Visitation will be weather-dependent due to wind exposure. The best access would be at the northern or southern ends of the site away from the tide flat. Ashore, the terrain is flat and provides for good walking. The creek can easily be crossed without waders.</p>
Facilities	<p>None</p>
Concerns and/or Opportunities	<p>This area is a local hunting area. Beware of limited visibility into the main creek stem, due to potential bear/human interactions. There is a private parcel nearby.</p>
Attractions	<p>Good opportunities for wildlife viewing, particularly shorebirds and bears.</p>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Waterfowl-- timing restriction for molting birds 7/1 to 9/15 • No large group camping. • No consumptive uses by large groups. • Outfitter/guides will not trespass on private land. • Guided activities must not interfere with other forest management activities.
Other Management Plans	<p>Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Admiralty Island Area, Designation General Use</p>

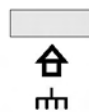
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-08 FOWLER CREEK



Large Group Area Boundary
 Streams
 Existing Road



Non National Forest Land
 Wilderness
 Outside of Project Area



Salt and Fresh Water
 Recreation Cabin
 Marine Access Point



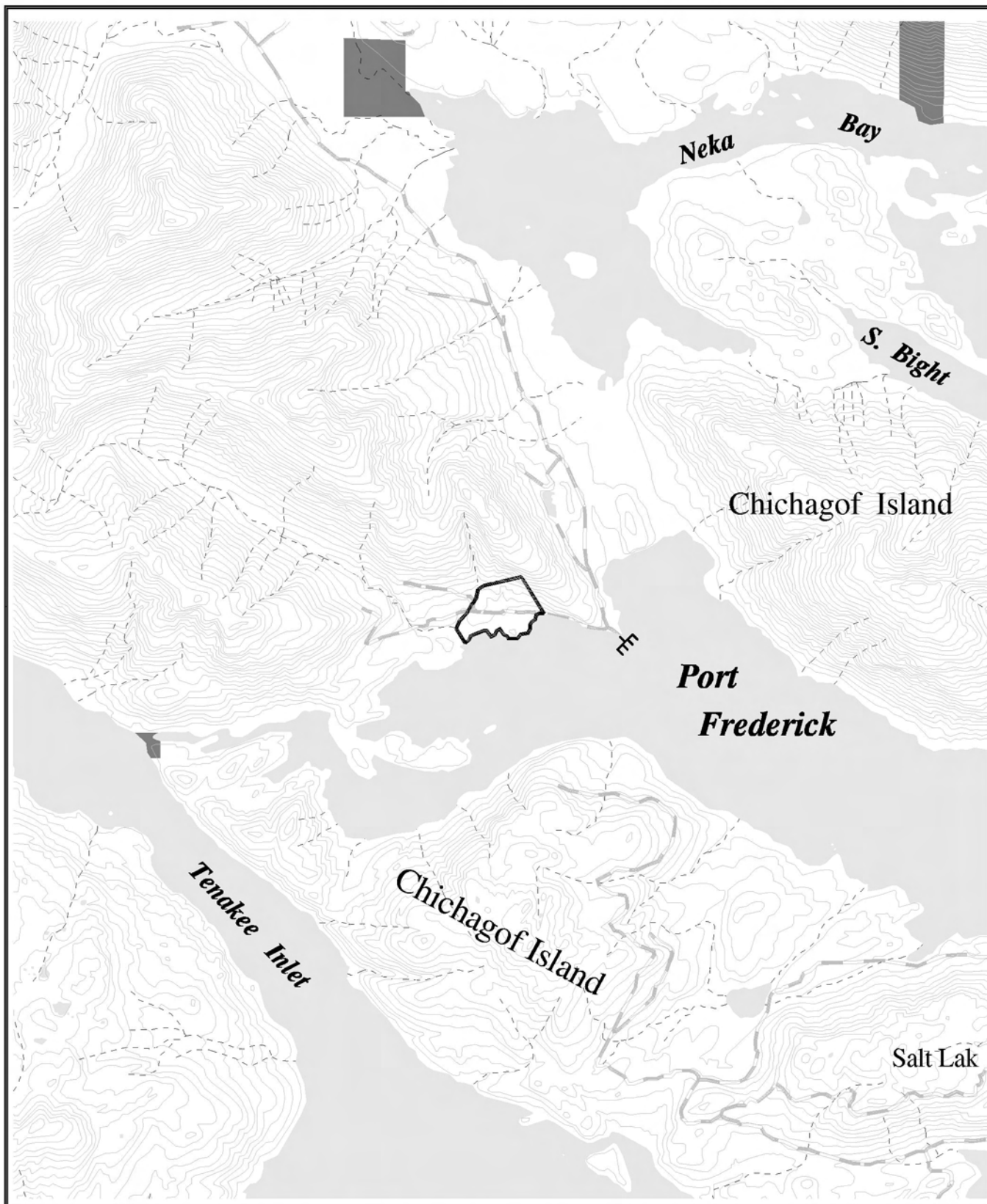
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas	
Eight-Fathom Dock Area Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	04-11
LUD	Scenic Viewshed
ROS	Roaded Modified
Acres	110
General Characteristics	The site was previously used as a timber transfer facility. It has a scenic setting in Eight-Fathom Bay.
Historical Use	No commercial outfitter/guide use occurred here during 1999-2001.
Access	It is sixteen miles from Hoonah. The dock accommodates floatplanes and boats up to 35 feet in length.
Facilities	There is a road, a Forest Service bunkhouse, and an administrative dock
Concerns and/or Opportunities	The hardened site will sustain repeated foot traffic. There are opportunities for interpretation on forest management. There is a new hot springs developed site in the area.
Attractions	Scenic setting, wildlife viewing
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian • Guided recreationists will not block use of the dock or interfere with other forest management activities. • Outfitter/guide boats will not tie directly to the dock or be left unattended.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Undeveloped Public Recreation and Tourism

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-11 EIGHT FATHOM DOCK



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



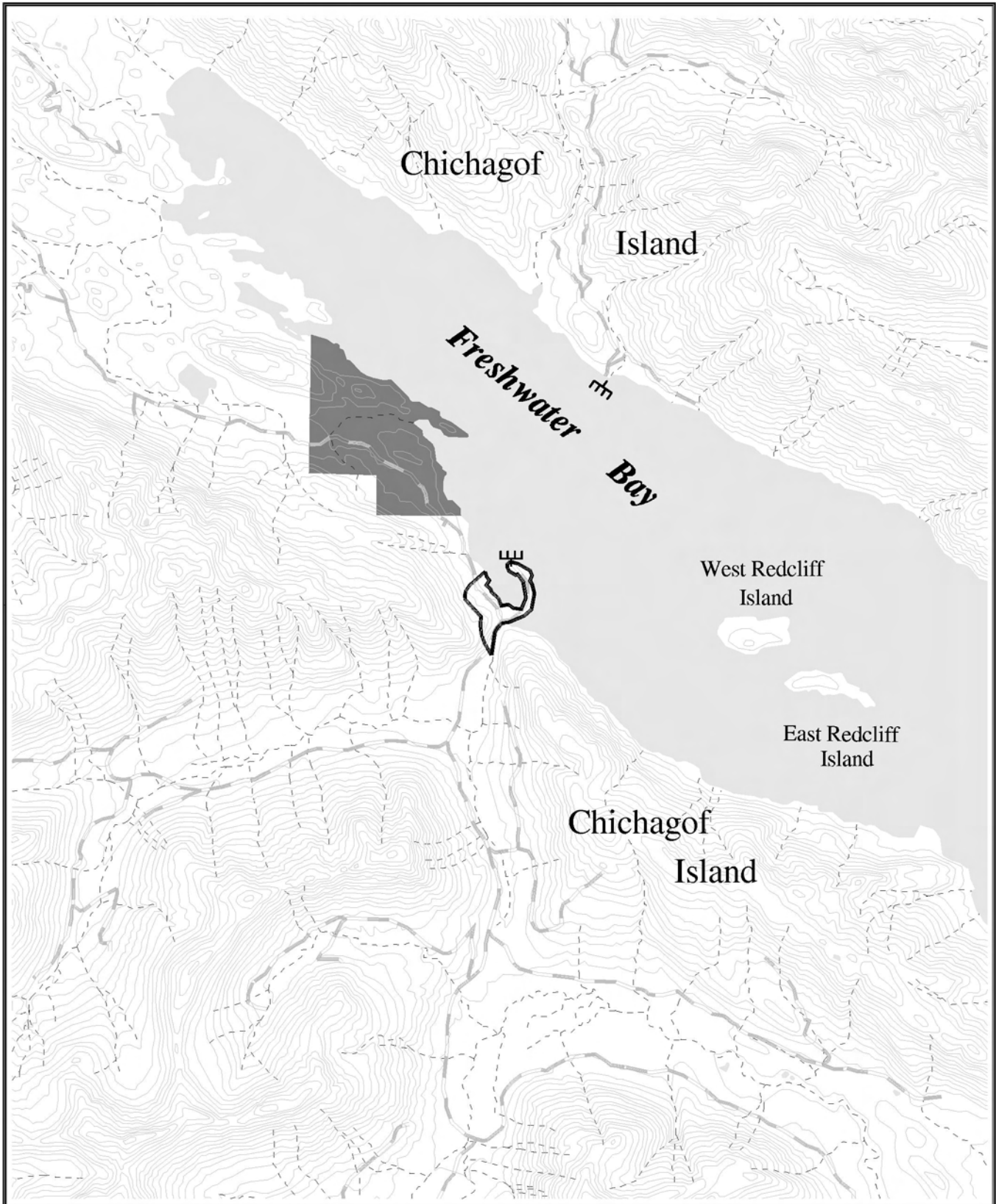
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas	
Kennel Creek Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	04-11
LUD	Scenic Viewshed
ROS	Roaded Modified
Acres	73
General Characteristics	This area is centrally located in Freshwater Bay. The site was previously used as a logging camp and a timber transfer facility. This site is regenerating naturally. The area offers excellent views of Freshwater Bay, Chatham Strait, Admiralty Island, and the mountain peaks above Juneau. It is adjacent to Kennel Creek.
Historical Use	No commercial outfitter/guide use occurred here during 1999-2001.
Access	The area may be accessed from Forest Road 8508. The dock accommodates floatplanes and boats up to 35 feet in length.
Facilities	Road, marine access point, Forest Service bunkhouse, dock
Concerns and/or Opportunities	The hardened site will sustain repeated foot traffic. There are opportunities to interpret forest management activities.
Attractions	It has a scenic setting, with opportunities for wildlife viewing (especially brown bear), and anadromous fisheries.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation • Users will not block use of the dock. • Outfitter/guide boats will not tie directly to the dock. • Guided activities will not interfere with other forest management activities.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-11 KENNEL CREEK



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

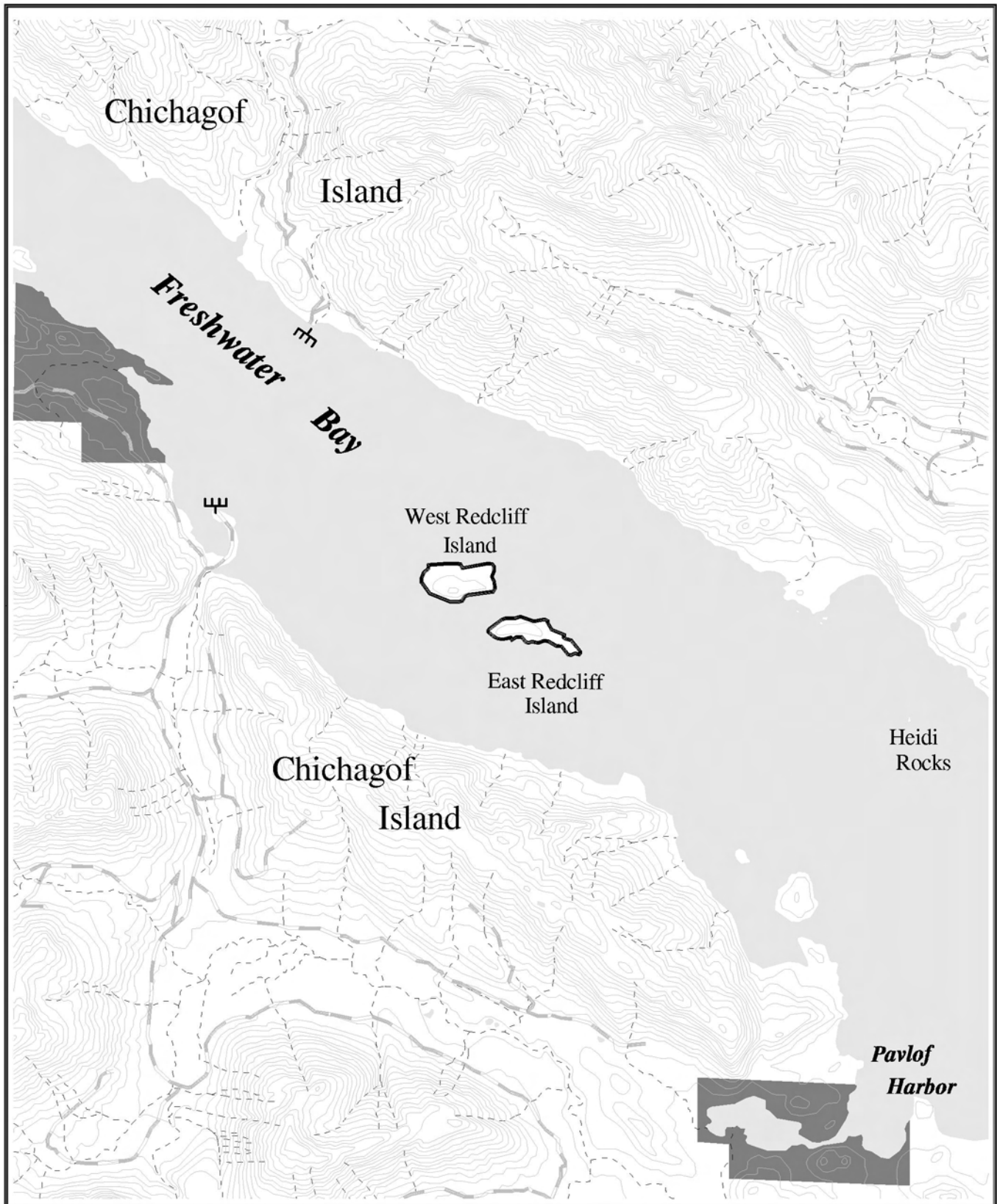
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas	
Red Cliff Islands Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	04-11
LUD	Semi-Remote Recreation
ROS	Semi-Primitive Motorized
Acres	119
General Characteristics	This area features two isolated islands, East & West Red Cliff, in the middle of Freshwater Bay. There is an elevation rise of 240 feet with scenic red cliffs. It does not receive much unguided use.
Historical Use	No commercial outfitter/guide use occurred here during 1999-2001.
Access	It is six miles from entrance of Freshwater Bay with good protected anchorage, and two miles from Kennel Creek float dock and Hoonah road system.
Facilities	None
Concerns and/or Opportunities	There is an opportunity to interpret fox farm ruins on West Red Cliff Island.
Attractions	This area has a scenic setting, with excellent views across Chatham Strait of Admiralty Island and mainland mountains behind Juneau. There are some wildlife viewing opportunities.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Marine mammals • No large group camping. • No consumptive uses by large groups. • Guided activities must not interfere with other forest management activities.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-11 RED CLIFF ISLANDS



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

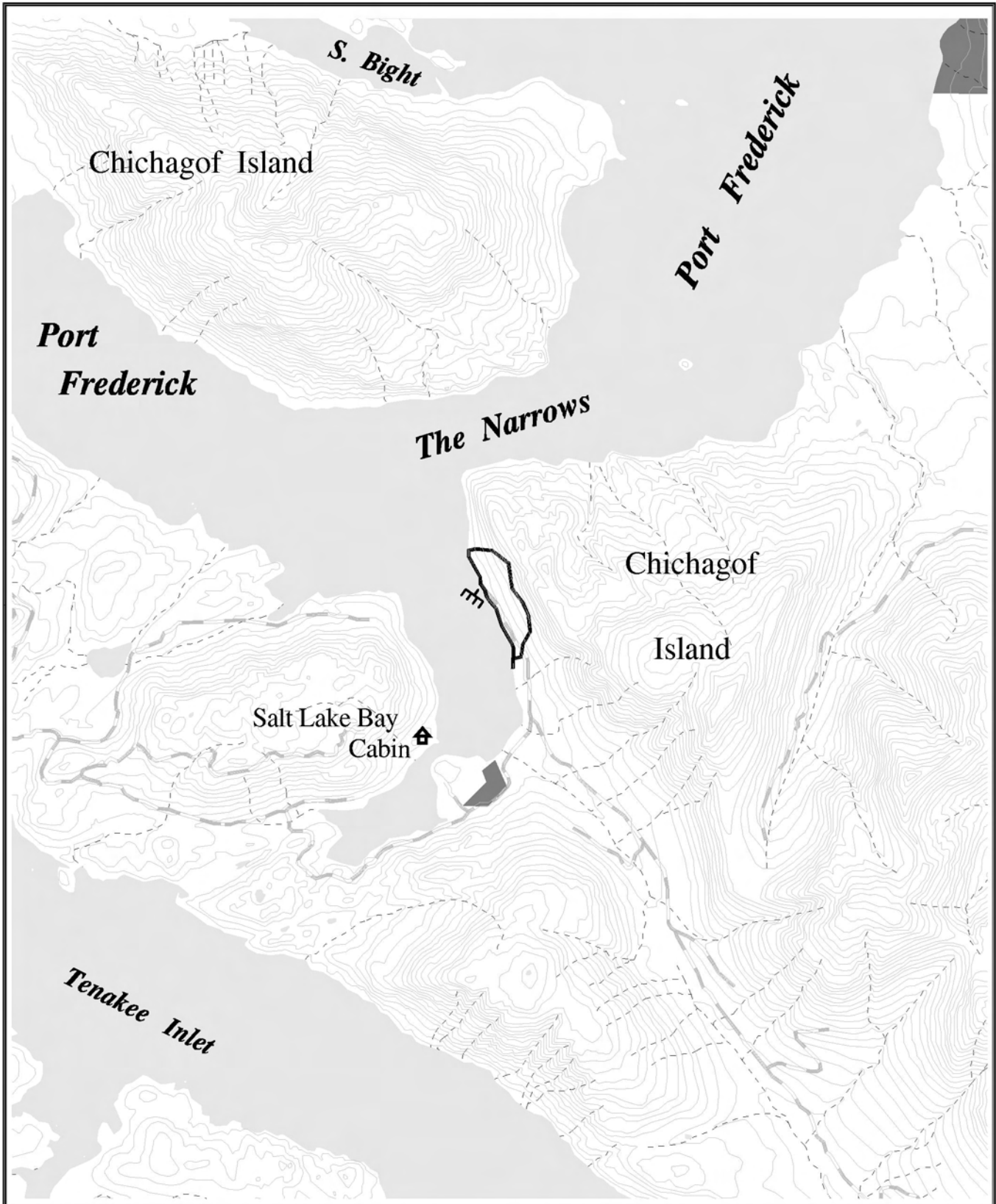
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

<p>Large Group Areas</p> <p>Salt Lake Bay Dock Selected Alternative</p>	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-11 Scenic Viewshed Roaded Modified 91
Historical Use	No outfitter/guide use occurred here during 1999-2001.
Access	This area is thirteen miles from Hoonah.
Facilities	There is a road, a marine access point, and an administrative dock. The dock accommodates boats up to 35 feet in length and floatplanes. Salt Lake Bay Forest Service recreation cabin is in the vicinity.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	Hardened site will sustain repeated foot traffic. There are interpretive opportunities.
Attractions	There are wildlife viewing opportunities, especially for brown bear.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing • No large group camping • No consumptive uses by large groups • Outfitter/guide boats may not tie directly to the dock or leave boats unattended, and guided users must not block dock use. • Guided use must not interfere with other forest management activities. • Guided use must not interfere with Salt Lake Bay cabin use.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation General Use

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-11 SALT LAKE BAY DOCK



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



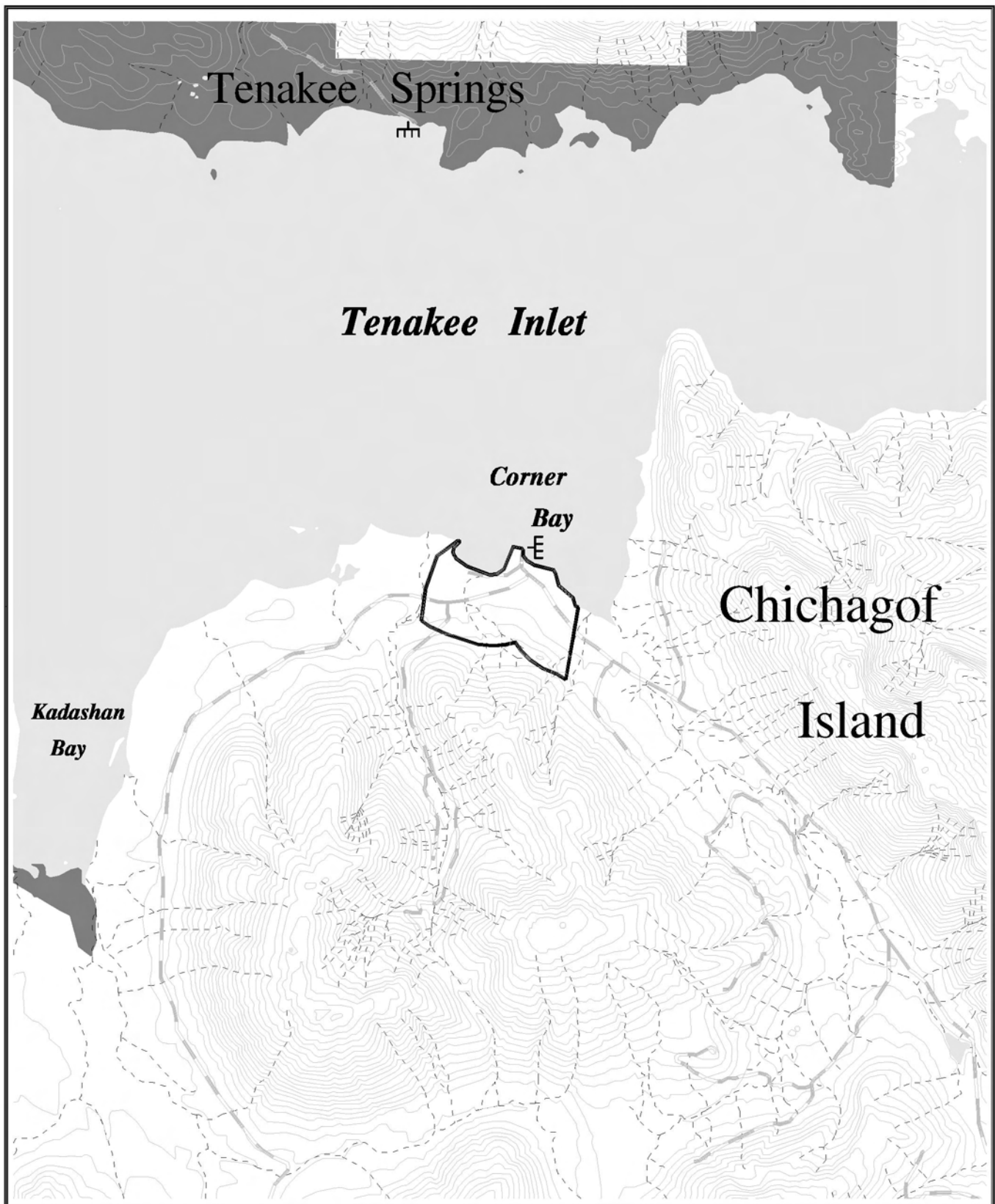
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Corner Bay Road Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	04-12
LUD	Scenic Viewshed, Timber Production
ROS	Roaded Modified
Acres	398
General Characteristics	Timber has been harvested from this area. There are managed stands of timber with a variety of silvicultural treatments.
Historical Use	Commercially guided groups used this area during 1999-2001.
Access	Many miles of road are suitable for high clearance vehicles.
Facilities	This area has a road and a marine access point. The Forest Service maintains a dock at Corner Bay where boats and floatplanes may tie up. Corner Bay is the site of a Forest Service administrative site that consists of a bunkhouse, garage, water system, and electrical generator.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	There are interpretive opportunities for forest management.
Attractions	Hiking, sightseeing, wildlife viewing
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Bald eagles ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation • Guided use of Corner Bay dock is permitted but guides must not leave boats unattended or interfere with administrative use. • Guided use must not interfere with other forest management activities.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-12 CORNER BAY ROAD



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



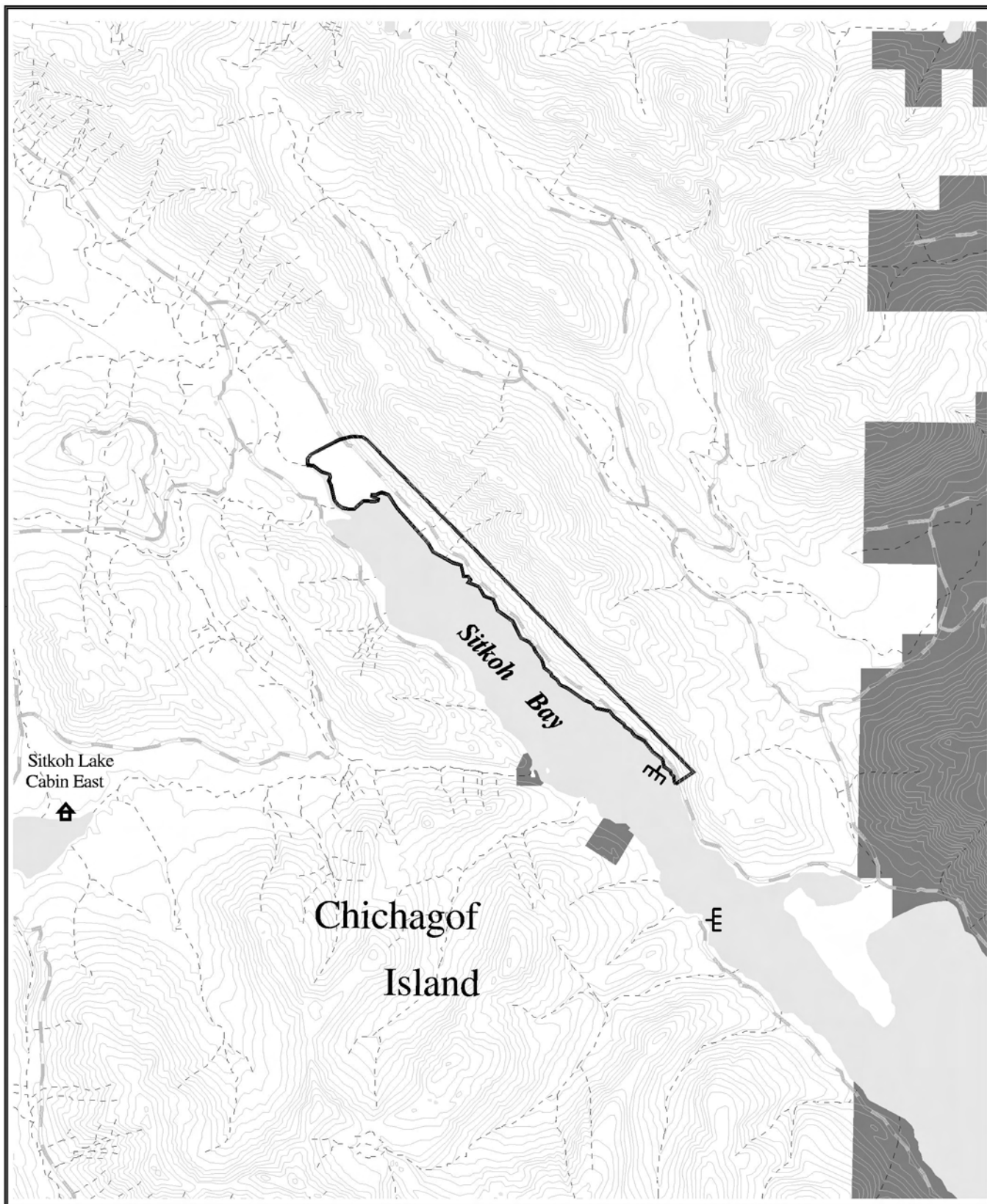
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Sitkoh Bay Road Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	04-13
LUD	Modified Landscape
ROS	Roaded Modified
Acres	454
General Characteristics	A scenic bay and a past timber harvest are visible in the area. The road on the north side of the bay passes just above the shoreline providing easy access.
Historical Use	This area was logged in the 1970s. Commercial outfitter/guides used the area during the 1999-2001 seasons.
Access	There is a protected anchorage within the bay. Skiffs can land along the shore but the exact spot depends on the tide. During high tide it is possible to land at the north end of the meadow at the end of the bay.
Facilities	Road and marine access point.
Attractions	Easy access to an old roadbed for walking. Opportunities for forest management interpretation. Opportunity to hike to the estuary at the head of the bay and view wildlife.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation • Guided use must not interfere with other forest management activities.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Undeveloped Public Recreation and Tourism

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-13 SITKOH BAY ROAD



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

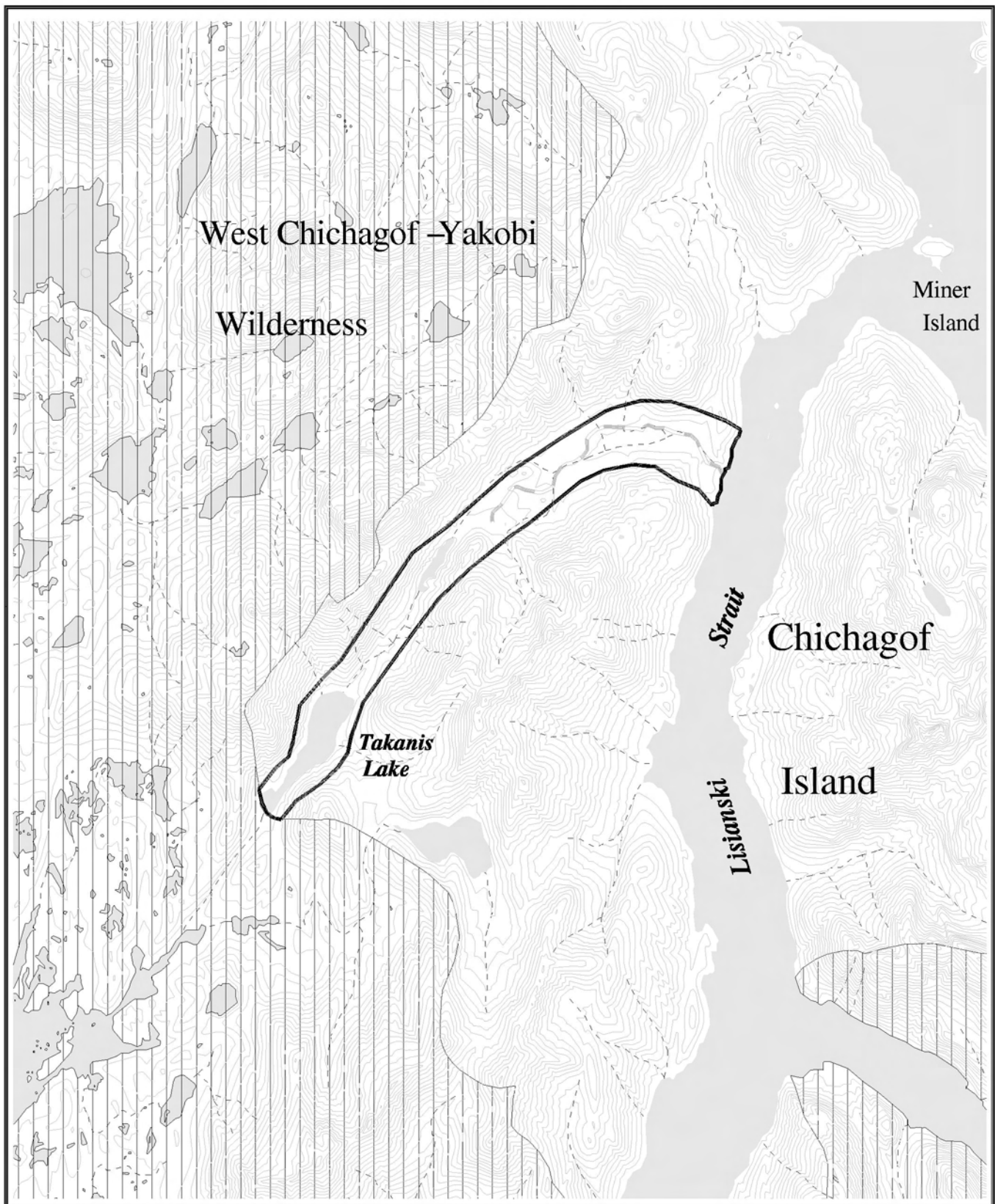
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Bohemia Basin Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-15 Semi-Remote Recreation. Semi-Primitive Motorized 1,043
General Characteristics	<p>This area has an isolated setting adjacent to West Chichagof Yakobi Wilderness. There is an old mining claim in Bohemia Basin with scenic cliffs and numerous waterfalls along Lisianski Strait and Lisianski Inlet. It is approximately eight miles from Pelican and ten miles from the outer coast of Yakobi Island and west Chichagof.</p>
Historical Use	<p>No commercial Outfitter-Guide use occurred here during 1999-2001.</p>
Access	<p>There is a dock at this location that will accommodate boats up to 50 feet in length. This dock is under the jurisdiction of the City of Pelican. It is in poor condition.</p>
Facilities	<p>This site was the staging area for a mining operation in Bohemia Basin valley. The operation was abandoned in the early 1980s and the site has been reclaimed. There is a primitive four-mile hiking trail to Takanis Lake.</p>
Concerns and/or Opportunities	<p>The dock is in poor condition. The mining road serves as a good hardened trail. Cultural sites are present.</p>
Attractions	<p>Boat dock, scenic setting adjacent to Wilderness, Takanis Lake trail, wildlife viewing opportunities</p>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Bald eagles ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation • Cultural sites will be excluded from guided use. • Outfitter/guides must obtain permission to use the dock.
Other Management Plans	<p>Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation General Use</p>

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-15 BOHEMIA BASIN



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



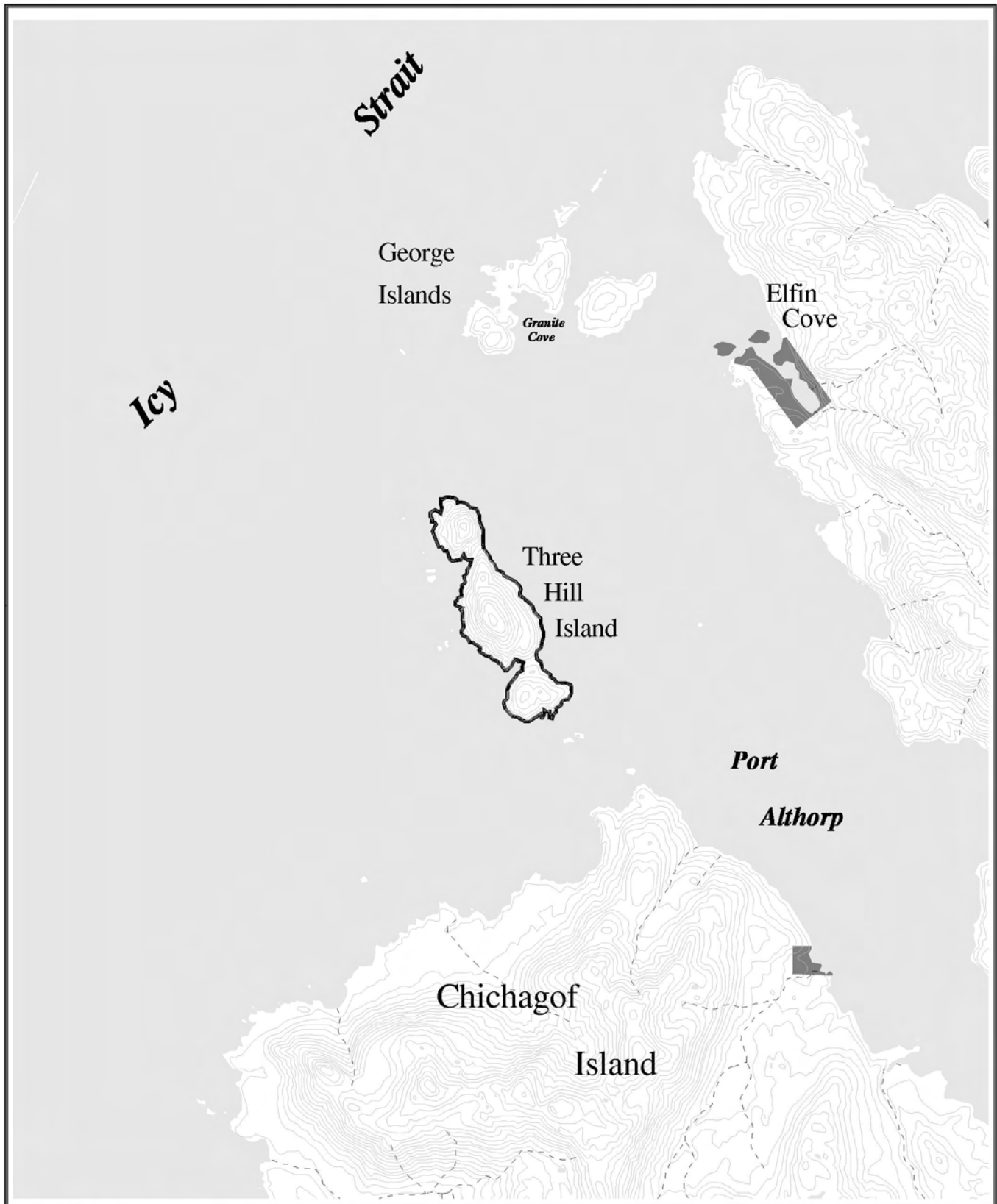
Mapscale 1:63360










Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas	
Three Hill Island Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Enclave 04-15 Semi-Remote Recreation Semi-Primitive Motorized 362
General Characteristics	This area is located near the entrance to Port Althorp. It is a small island with secluded sandy coves, sea bird rookeries, and terrestrial and marine mammal viewing opportunities. This island offers a variety of recreation and wildlife viewing opportunities including hiking, sightseeing, camping, and beach combing. It has a difficult anchorage.
Historical Use	Outfitter/guides used this area during the 1999-2001 seasons.
Access	Three Hill Island is within five miles of Elfin Cove and receives unguided use from residents and visitors for hiking, sightseeing, beach combing, and camping. Large boats normally anchor on the east side of the island and skiff ashore. Smaller skiffs and kayaks also approach from the east side, as the west shore is very rocky and exposed to large swells from Cross Sound.
Facilities	There are no Forest Service facilities at this location.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	Elfin Cove residents use this area. There are seal and/or sea lion haul outs and seabird rookeries.
Attractions	This area has a scenic setting with views across Cross Sound of Glacier Bay National Park. There are opportunities for wildlife viewing; particularly sea bird rookeries.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marine mammals ○ Bald eagles ○ Seabird rookeries ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-15 THREE HILL ISLAND



- | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
|  | Large Group Area Boundary |  | Non National Forest Land |  | Salt and Fresh Water |
|  | Streams |  | Wilderness |  | Recreation Cabin |
|  | Existing Road |  | Outside of Project Area |  | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



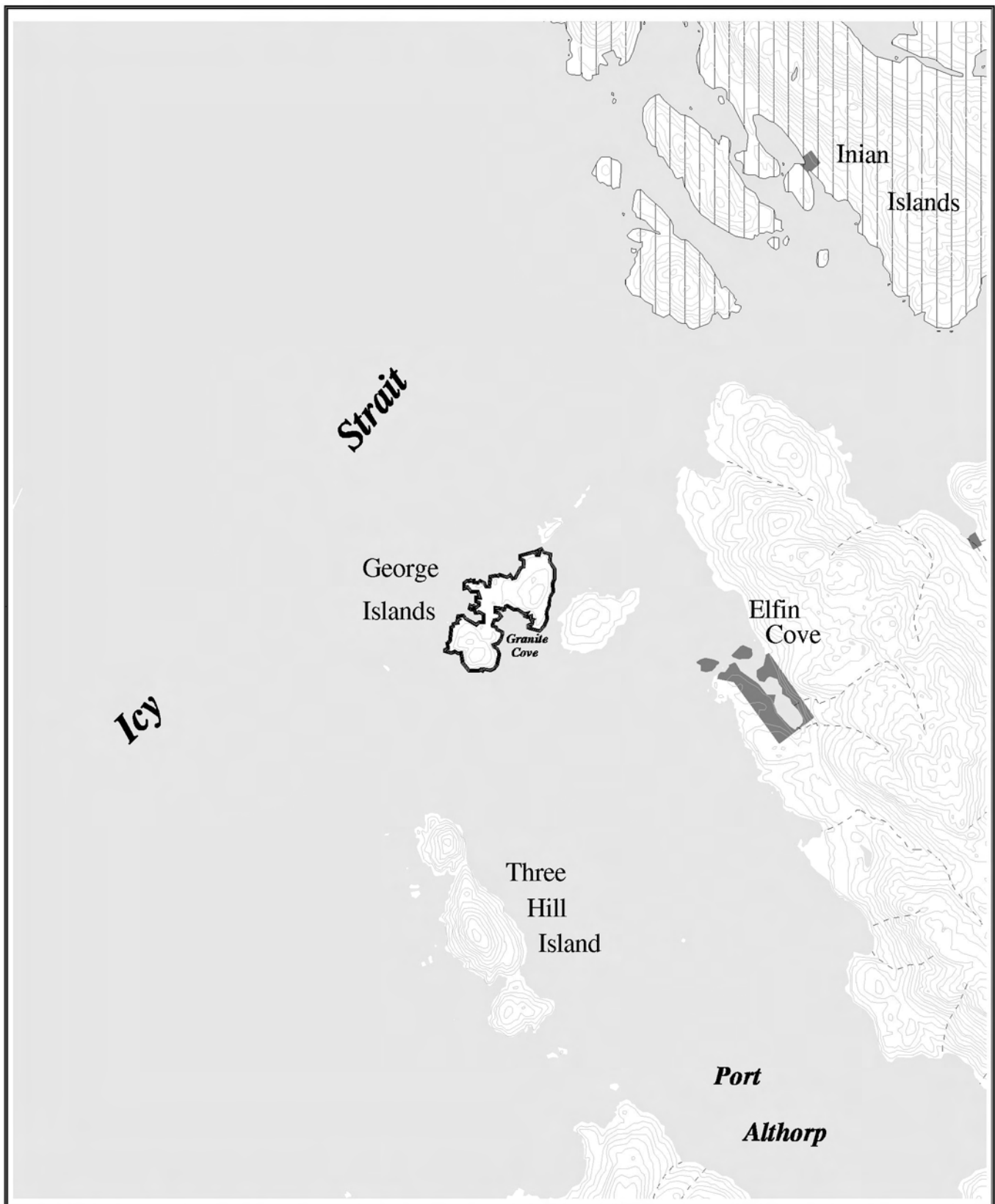
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas	
George Island Selected Alternative	
Type	Enclave
Use Area	04-16D
LUD	Semi-Remote Recreation
ROS	Semi-Primitive Motorized
Acres	188
General Characteristics	Granite Cove is approximately two miles from the community of Elfin Cove. The area is very scenic with isolated coves, open forest, and excellent views across Cross Sound. This site offers an excellent opportunity to interpret the historic use of the island as a WWII military site.
Historical Use	It is a popular location for guided use.
Access	The site is two miles from Elfin Cove. There is an excellent beach for launching small boats and kayaks at Granite Cove. It has a good protected anchorage for mid-size cruise ships.
Facilities	A primitive ¼ mile trail leads to a WWII cannon.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	The trail has been receiving an increasingly high amount of use over the previous few years and needs to be improved to sustain the increased use. There are interpretive opportunities at the WWII cannon site.
Attractions	There are scenic views of Cross Sound, Cape Spencer, Glacier Bay National Park, and Brady Glacier. This area has opportunities for wildlife viewing and hiking on the WWII Cannon Trail. It is close to Elfin Cove.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Vegetation ○ No large group camping ○ No consumptive uses by large groups ○ Cultural resource mitigation • Additional levels of guided use on the WWII Cannon trail will not be permitted until the trail is reconstructed.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-16D GEORGE ISLAND



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



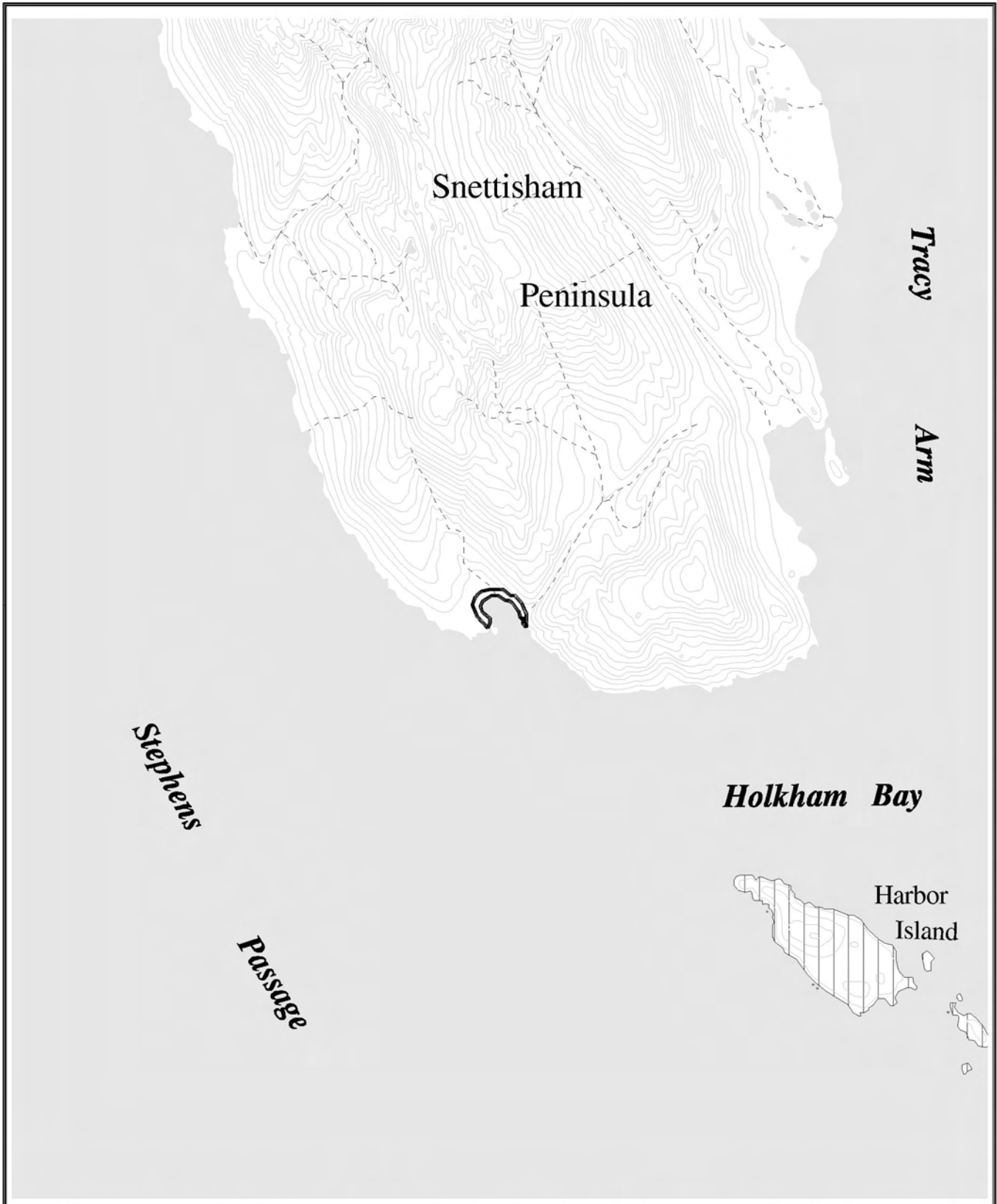
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Point Coke Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Fifteen-Percent Area 01-05B Old Growth Semi-Primitive Motorized 22
General Characteristics	This south-facing site is located at the entrance to Holkham Bay. The cove is approximately ¼ mile across. Surrounding the cove is a large rock wall with small grottoes and large boulders on the east side and a large meadow on the west side. A second scenic creek bisects the site.
Historical Use	There was no reported commercial use during the 1999-2001 seasons.
Access	A small pebble beach allows for skiff landings at most tide stages. Anchorage and access could be difficult under some weather conditions due to exposure to Stephens Passage. Icebergs may occasionally be in the area.
Facilities	None
Attractions	Proximity to Tracy Arm Wilderness allows for a shore excursion and view of upper Tracy Arm on the same day. This area offers scenic views of Frederick Sound. A variety of wildflowers were noted in the area. It has two creeks and provides some geologic diversity. The large rock outcrop at the southwest side provides excellent views of Stephens Passage and Holkham Bay.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Riparian. ○ Vegetation ○ Bald eagles • No large group camping. • No consumptive uses by large groups.
Other Management Plans	Central/Southern Southeast Area Plan, Region 1-Sumdum North, Designation General Use

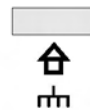
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 01-05B POINT COKE



Large Group Area Boundary
 Streams
 Existing Road



Non National Forest Land
 Wilderness
 Outside of Project Area



Salt and Fresh Water
 Recreation Cabin
 Marine Access Point



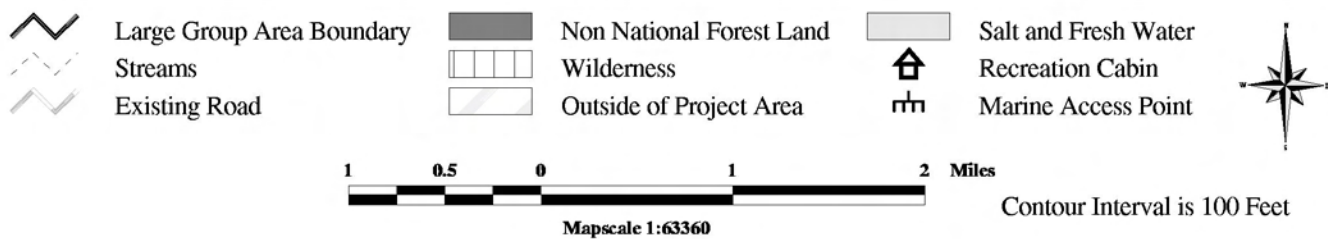
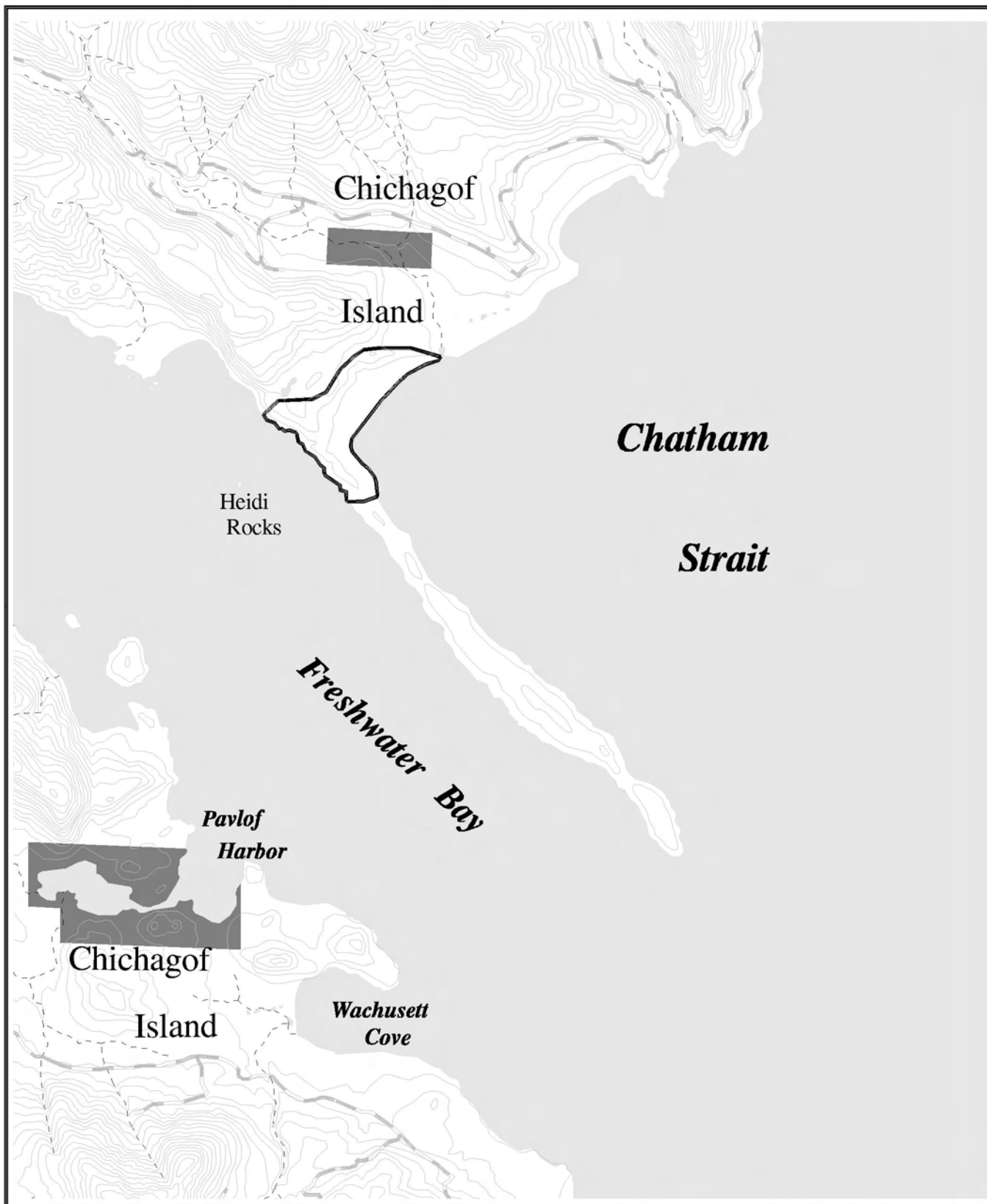
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

<p>Large Group Areas</p> <p>Iyoukeen Peninsula</p> <p>Selected Alternative</p>	
<p>Type</p> <p>Use Area</p> <p>LUD</p> <p>ROS</p> <p>Acres</p>	<p>Fifteen-Percent</p> <p>04-11</p> <p>Old-Growth Habitat.</p> <p>Semi-Primitive Motorized</p> <p>314</p>
General Characteristics	<p>This is a narrow peninsula with excellent views across Chatham Strait, Admiralty Island, and the mountain peaks behind Juneau. There is a good anchorage in Iyoukeen Cove on east side of the peninsula.</p>
Historical Use	<p>No commercial outfitter/guide use occurred here during the 1999-2001 seasons.</p>
Access	<p>It is six miles from Kennel Creek.</p>
Facilities	<p>There are no Forest Service facilities at this location.</p>
Concerns and/or Opportunities	<p>There are seal and/or sea lion haul outs on Heidi Rocks, ½ mile away.</p>
Attractions	<p>It has a scenic setting with wildlife and marine mammal viewing opportunities.</p>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Marine mammals ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian • No large group camping • No consumptive uses by large groups
Other Management Plans	<p>Northern Southeast Area Plan, Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest</p>

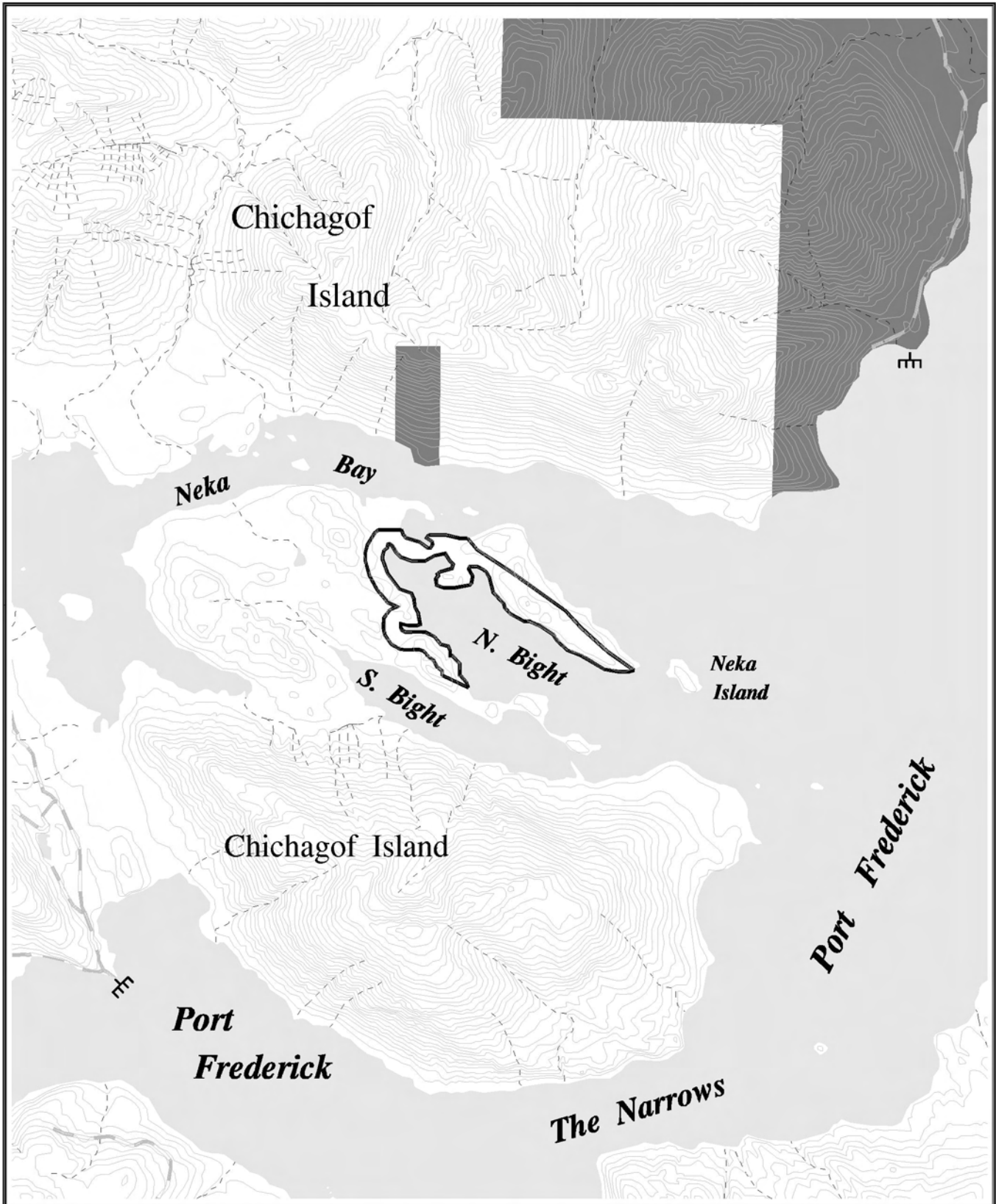
Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-11 IYOUKEEN PENINSULA



Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

<p>Large Group Areas</p> <p>Neka Bay – North Bight</p> <p>Selected Alternative</p>	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	<p>Fifteen-Percent</p> <p>04-11</p> <p>Old-Growth Habitat</p> <p>Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, and Roaded Modified</p> <p>347</p>
General Characteristics	This area has a scenic setting in a narrow secluded cove with easy to access shoreline. It has a heavily forested beach fringe. There is a good anchorage at the head of the bight.
Historical Use	No commercial outfitter/guide use occurred here during 1999-2001.
Access	It is ten miles from Hoonah. There is a protected anchorage, and easy beach access by skiff or kayak.
Facilities	There are no Forest Service facilities at this location.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	There is resource damage from repeated trampling. Possible cultural sites exist. Hoonah residents use this area.
Attractions	Scenic setting, wildlife viewing opportunities
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian ○ Waterfowl—timing restriction from 7/1 to 9/15 for molting birds • Cultural sites will be excluded from guided use. • No large group camping. • No consumptive uses by large groups.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan, Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-11 NEKA BAY NORTH BIGHT



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |

1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles

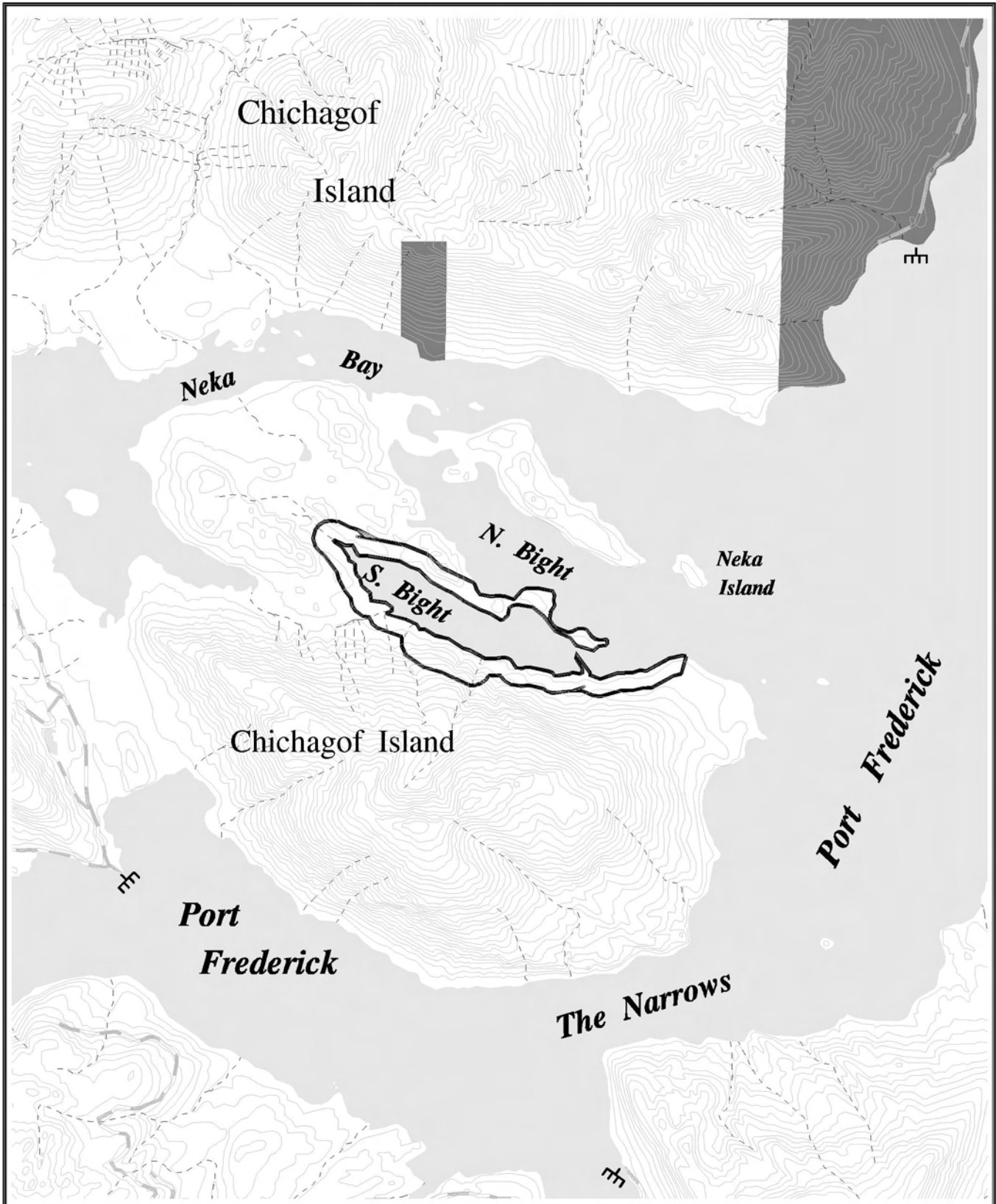
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

<p>Large Group Areas</p> <p>Neka Bay – South Bight</p> <p>Selected Alternative</p>	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	<p>Fifteen-Percent</p> <p>04-11</p> <p>Old-Growth Habitat.</p> <p>Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, and Roaded Modified</p> <p>457</p>
General Characteristics	It has a scenic setting in a narrow secluded cove with an easily accessible shoreline. The beach fringe is heavily forested. There is a good anchorage at the head of the bight.
Historical Use	No commercial outfitter-guide use occurred here during 1999-2001.
Access	It is ten miles from Hoonah. There is a protected anchorage, and easy beach access by skiff or kayak.
Facilities	There are no Forest Service facilities at this location.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	There is resource damage from repeated trampling. Potential cultural sites exist. Hoonah residents use this area.
Attractions	Scenic setting, wildlife viewing opportunities
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian • Cultural sites will be excluded from guided use. • No large group camping. • No consumptive uses by large groups.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation Habitat and Harvest

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-11 NEKA BAY SOUTH BIGHT



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



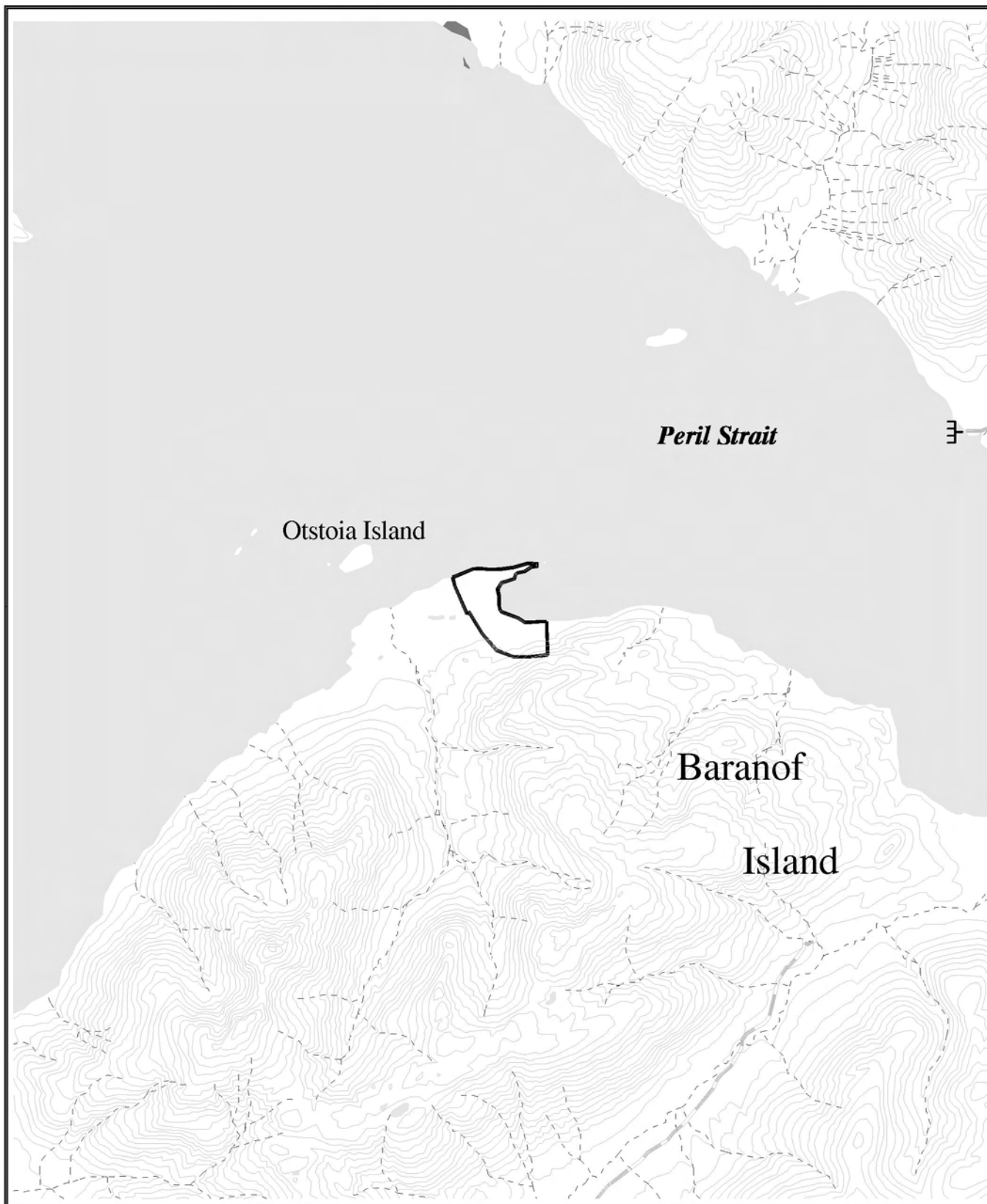
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Area	
Nismeni Point Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Fifteen-Percent 04-13 Old Growth Habitat Semi-Primitive Motorized 144
General Characteristics	This area is an example of historical second growth. Inland the area becomes open forest and patchy bogs with small ponds. There are a good variety of vegetation types. At low tide there is some intertidal life to explore.
Historical Use	This area was logged in the early 1960s. No commercial outfitting and guiding occurred here during the 1999-2001 seasons.
Access	The anchorage off Peril Strait is protected, except from the easterly direction. It is possible to land a skiff in the small bay to the east of the point; the exact location depends on the tide stage. The very head of the bay has some narrow shallow mudflats at lowest tides.
Facilities	None
Concerns and/or Opportunities	There are interpretive opportunities.
Attractions	This is a historic logging area. There are hiking opportunities inland to open forest and bog areas. It is close to Surgius Narrows and Peril Straits.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Vegetation ○ Riparian
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation General Use

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-13 NISMENI POINT



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



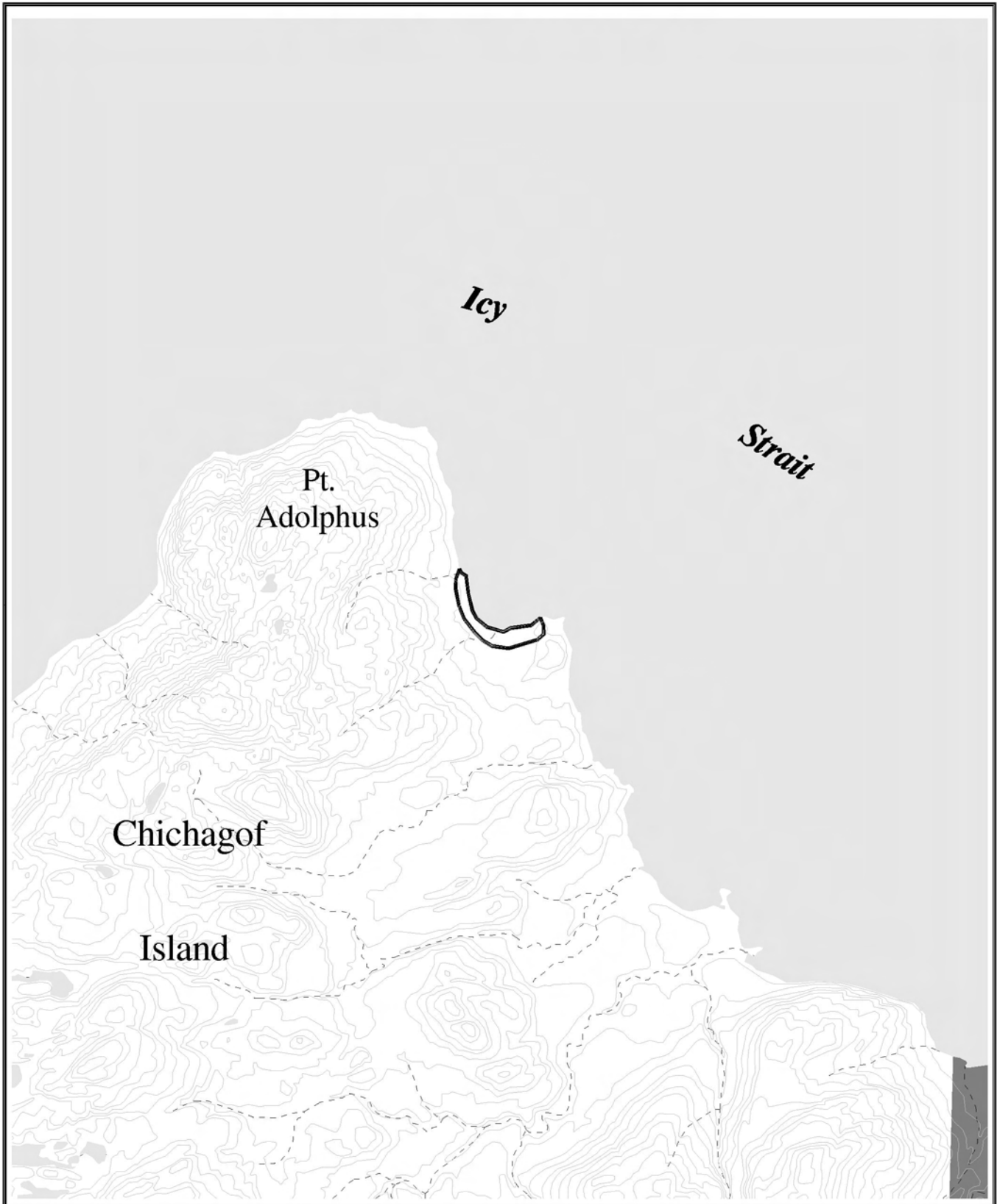
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas	
Pinta Cove Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Fifteen-Percent 04-16A LUD II Semi-Primitive Motorized 57
General Characteristics	This high use area is on the eastern portion of use area 04-16A between Chicken Creek and Point Adolphus. Tour boat operators use this area for kayaking and hiking. Several commercial kayak/camping operators use this area throughout the summer season. The cove receives traffic from kayak transporters, ocean fishing charters, and local mariners.
Historical Use	This site was used by outfitter/guides during 1999-2001.
Access	Pinta Cove provides a fair anchorage for larger boats. The shoreline is normally accessed by small skiff or kayak.
Facilities	A three-sided shelter receives steady use through the summer season from kayakers camping overnight. Pinta Point is a primary campsite that is naturally hardened.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	Icy Strait community residents use the area. There is heavy use by both guided and unguided recreationists.
Attractions	This area features whale and other wildlife viewing, camping, sightseeing, day-use hiking, beach combing, hunting, and an emergency shelter. It currently receives use from mid-size cruise ships. It is a popular recreation place, and people are accustomed to seeing others in this area.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Brown bear viewing ○ Vegetation ○ Marine mammals ○ Riparian • Large group use will not displace unguided users at the Pinta Cove shelter.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation General Use

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
 Large Group Area
 Use Area 04-16A PINTA COVE



Large Group Area Boundary
 Streams
 Existing Road



Non National Forest Land
 Wilderness
 Outside of Project Area



Salt and Fresh Water
 Recreation Cabin
 Marine Access Point



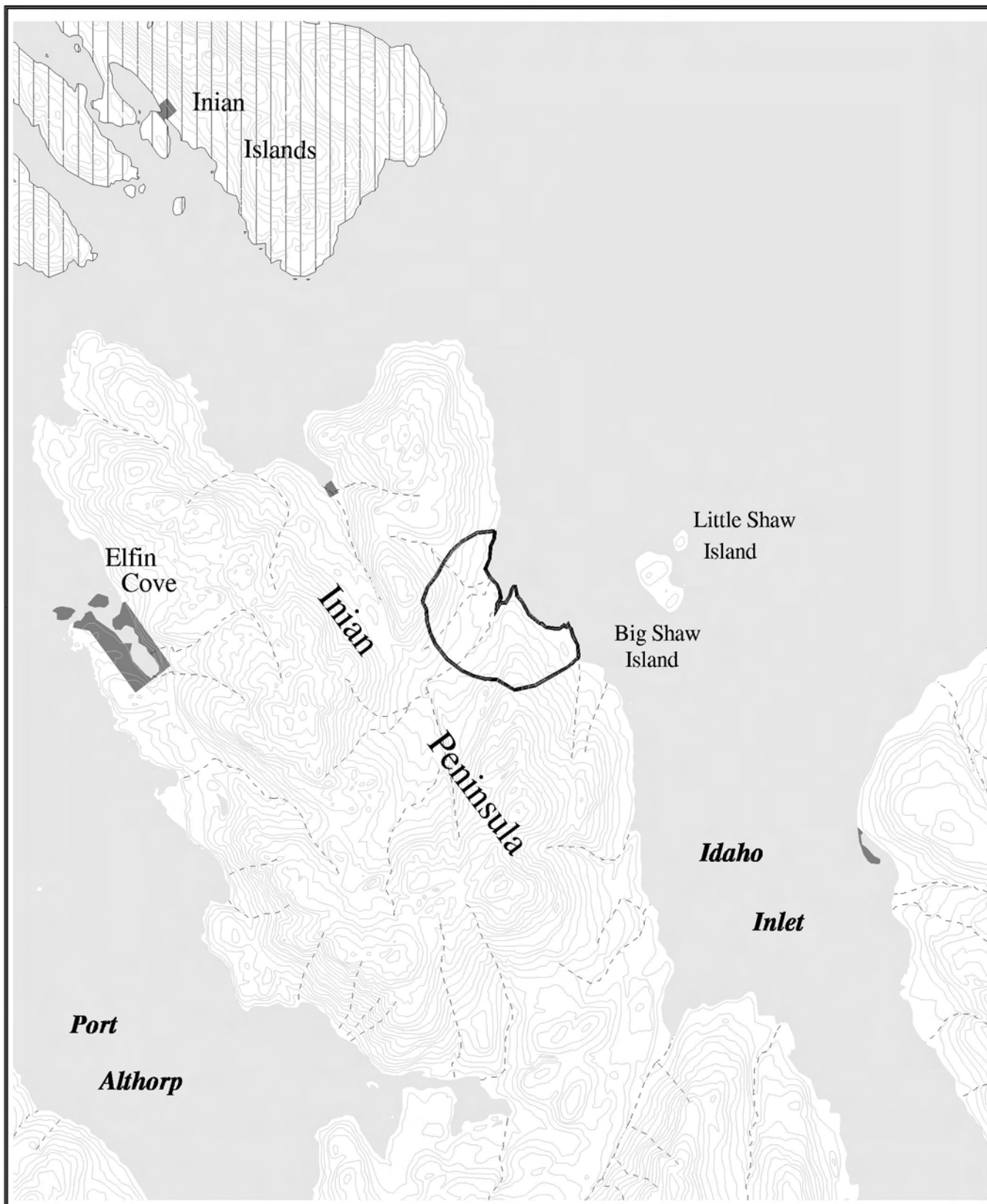
Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas	
Fox Creek Selected Alternative	
Type Use Area LUD ROS Acres	Fifteen-Percent 04-16C LUD II Semi-Primitive Motorized 417
General Characteristics	This area has a scenic setting with a small salmon stream adjacent to a large alluvial fan. There is an open forest understory and a grassy intertidal area.
Historical Use	Outfitter/guides used this area during 1999-2001. Tour boat operators use this site for day use hiking and sightseeing.
Access	A protected anchorage between Fox Creek and Big Shaw Island offers easy access by skiff or kayak to a gravel beach.
Facilities	There are no Forest Service facilities at this location.
Concerns and/or Opportunities	Icy Strait residents use this area. It is a local trolling drag between Shaw Island and Fox Creek. There is potential for human/bear encounters.
Attractions	This area features a scenic setting, wildlife viewing opportunities and easy beach access. It is a good area for hiking and kayaking. It is out of the way and not a popular local recreation place.
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix C for mitigation measures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bald eagles ○ Marine mammals ○ Riparian ○ Vegetation ○ Brown bear viewing • No large group camping. • No consumptive uses by large groups. • Boats must anchor away from trolling drag.
Other Management Plans	Northern Southeast Area Plan (DNR), Chichagof Island Area, Designation General Use

Shoreline Outfitter/Guide FEIS
Large Group Area
Use Area 04-16C FOX CREEK



- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Large Group Area Boundary | | Non National Forest Land | | Salt and Fresh Water |
| | Streams | | Wilderness | | Recreation Cabin |
| | Existing Road | | Outside of Project Area | | Marine Access Point |



1 0.5 0 1 2 Miles



Mapscale 1:63360

Contour Interval is 100 Feet

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Large Group Areas Considered but Eliminated

The following list displays the potential large group areas that were considered and eliminated from further consideration. Other areas, such as Port Althorp and Use Areas containing communities, were also eliminated from consideration.

Table ROD B-3. Large Group Areas Considered but Eliminated

Enclaves	Fifteen-Percent Areas	Reason for Elimination
Deep Cove		Not compatible with ROS/LUD.
Sashin		May impact NMFS research facility at the entrance to Sashin Creek.
Lovers Cove		Not compatible with ROS/LUD.
Port Herbert		Not compatible with ROS/LUD.
Cliff Lake		Not compatible with ROS/LUD
	Elovoi	Cultural resource concerns.
	Shoals Point	Cultural resource concerns.
	Mud Bay Road	May conflict with community historic ATV use.
	Sinitisin Cove	May impact Native Allotment
Lauf Island		Island is too small for large group use.
	Thatcher	Cultural resource concerns.
	Kelp Bay-S.Arm	Not compatible with ROS/LUD.
Takatz Islands		Not compatible with ROS/LUD.
	Sadie Lake	Most of trail is on non-national forest land.
	Kadashan Bay	Bay heavily used by the residences of Tenakee Springs.
	Long Bay	Better areas available in this vicinity.
	Coffee Cove	Cultural resource concerns.
	Broad Creek	Cultural resource concerns.
	Goose Cove	Cultural resource concerns.
	Deep Bay	May impact Native allotment
Barlow Cove		Three Special Use cabins and cultural resource concerns.
Hawk Inlet (1)		Poor access due to tide flats.
Hawk Inlet (2)		May impact existing cabins.
Endicott River		May impact known Sensitive plant species.

Large Group Areas—Appendix ROD B

Enclaves	Fifteen-Percent Areas	Reason for Elimination
Slate Cove		Cultural resource concerns.
Sawmill Creek		Cultural resource concerns.
Scow Cove		Poor access with large tide flats and shifting sandbars.
Grizzly Bar		Poor access due to large tide flats.
Davidson Creek		Poor access due to big tide flats.
Slocum Inlet		Poor access due to large tide flats. Existing power line corridor. Limited attractions.
Mist Creek		Existing power line corridor and low-hanging lines directly behind the beach.
Bogert Point		Poor suitability for recreation use.
Sweetheart Creek		May impact unguided users in an area with a terminal fishery that is popular with Juneau anglers.
Gilbert Bay East		Proximity to Sweetheart Creek.
Meigs Peak I, North		Access too exposed. Better sites are nearby.
Meigs Peak II, South		Access too exposed. Better sites are nearby.
Dry Bay		Difficult access due to large tide flats.
Windham Bay I		Poor access, limited anchorage and limited attractions.
Windham Bay II		Cultural resource concerns.
Windham Bay South		Limited attractions. More suitable sites nearby.
Pot Marker		Poor access with large tide flat and rocky approaches.
Sunset Island		Exposed site, rocky shoreline, May disturb sea lion haul out.
Sunset Cove		Limited attractions
Haystack		Not compatible with ROS/LUD.
Little Lagoon		Limited attractions with modified viewshed. Potential marine access point for timber harvest.

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas

Enclaves	Fifteen-Percent Areas	Reason for Elimination
Unknown Lagoon		Limited attractions with modified viewshed. Potential marine access point for timber harvest.
Walter Island		Cultural resource concerns.
	Sandborn Canal	Limited attractions.
	Sandborn Canal II	To avoid impacting a known Sensitive plant species.
	Chicken Creek	Poor anchorage and access. May impact recreation and subsistence. USFS cabin and boat ramp planned.
	Neka Bay/Chimney Rock	To avoid impacting eagle nest. Cultural resource concerns.
	Whitestone Harbor	To avoid impacting unguided use by the Hoonah residents for recreation and subsistence. Planned location for a USFS cabin and boat ramp.
	False Bay	To avoid impacts to a popular unguided recreation and subsistence area.
	Freshwater Bay/East Head	Unsafe access due to large tide flats.
	Freshwater Bay/West Head	Unsafe access due to deceptive tide flats.
	Freshwater Bay/Wachusett Cove	May impact a Special Use hunter's cabin as well as unguided use
	Freshwater Bay/Cedar Cove	Limited hiking opportunities. Better areas for use nearby.
	Freshwater Bay/North Head	Unsafe access due to deceptive tide flats.
	Wukuklook Creek	Developed with trail for road access.
Porpoise Islands		Seal haul out.
	Lisianski Inlet Head	Proposed Wild River, and popular recreation and subsistence area for Pelican.
Little Shaw Island		Seal haul out
	Idaho Inlet-Marble Creek	Not compatible with Primitive ROS.
	Idaho Inlet, Trail River	Not compatible with Primitive ROS.
Idaho Inlet		Not compatible with Primitive ROS.

Large Group Areas—Appendix ROD B

Enclaves	Fifteen-Percent Areas	Reason for Elimination
	Port Althorp	Not compatible with Primitive ROS.
	Salt Chuck	Not compatible with Primitive ROS.
Homeshore		Heritage Resource Concerns
Kelp Bay Middle Arm		Wildlife concerns
Crab Bay		Wildlife concerns
West Tenakee (Goose Flats)		Wildlife concerns
Poison Cove		Wildlife concerns
Ushk Bay		Wildlife concerns
	Cosmos Cove	Wildlife concerns
	Saltery Bay	Wildlife concerns
	Seal Bay	Wildlife concerns
	Trap Bay	Wildlife concerns
	Moser	Wildlife concerns
	Nelson Falls	Wildlife concerns
	Patterson Bay	Not compatible with Primitive ROS.
	Patterson Bay North Point	Not compatible with Primitive ROS.
	Douglas Island	Scenic Viewshed LUD will allow for large group use with no special designation.
	Todd Road/Lindenburg Head	Scenic Viewshed LUD will allow for large group use with no special designation.

Appendix ROD B—Large Group Areas



Executive Summary

Introduction	ES-1
Proposed Action	ES-1
Purpose and Need	ES-2
Decision Framework	ES-2
Description of the Analysis Area	ES-3
Public Involvement.....	ES-3
Issues	ES-4
Alternatives Considered in Detail	ES-5
Identification of the Preferred Alternative	ES-9
Comparison of the Alternatives	ES-10
Mitigation and Monitoring.....	ES-12

Executive Summary

Key Terms

Carrying capacity (recreation) — The estimated maximum number of groups of people who could recreate in an area and still have a specified type of recreation experience.

Commercial use — Any use of the national forest for which a fee is charged by an outfitter/guide.

Enclave — Area where large groups can occur on a regular basis throughout the season.

Fifteen-Percent Area — Places where large groups can occur only on an occasional basis, for less than 15 percent of the primary use season.

Group — A group consists of one or more individuals recreating together as a social unit. Groups are used as the basic unit in this analysis

Group days — A measurement of recreation use by groups using the national forest on a daily basis

Large group — Group made up of a number of people that exceeds the general maximum group size for a specified type of recreation experience in the ROS. Large group size varies by LUD and ROS. For large group areas in this EIS, large groups are defined as 21-75 people.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) — A system for planning and managing recreation that categorizes recreation opportunities into seven classes.

Shoreline zone — The analysis area extending inland approximately one-half mile from mean high tide.

Use Area — Distinct geographic areas used in the analysis as the basis for defining and managing recreation use.

Executive Summary

Introduction

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, has prepared this final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for describing the potential effects of authorizing commercial outfitting and guiding activities on the shoreline of the Admiralty Island National Monument, and Hoonah, Sitka, and Juneau Ranger Districts, Tongass National Forest, Alaska Region (Region 10). Five alternatives are analyzed and presented. The FEIS was prepared according to the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 40 CFR 1500–1508).

This analysis was initiated due to the expiration of the decision made from the *Chatham Area Outfitter/Guide Limited Use Environmental Analysis* (USDA Forest Service 1993). Following that expiration and in response to concerns over increases in recreation and tourism on the Tongass National Forest, the Forest Service placed moratoriums on permitting additional commercial outfitter/guide use in some locations and on commercial brown bear guiding in two Game Management Unit (GMU 1 and GMU 4). The moratoriums are to continue until both a recreation carrying capacity and allocation process are in place.

The total recreation carrying capacity of the analysis area was determined and documented in the *Shoreline Recreation Carrying Capacity Analysis for the Admiralty Island National Monument, Hoonah, Juneau, and Sitka Ranger Districts on the Tongass National Forest* (USDA Forest Service 2001). This FEIS further analyzes potential effects of authorizing different levels of commercial outfitting and guiding activities within the shoreline zone of the analysis area.

Proposed Action

The proposed action (Alternative 2) authorizes issuing commercial permits for shoreline-based activities above mean high tide on National Forest System lands located on the Admiralty Island National Monument, and the Hoonah, Sitka, and Juneau Ranger Districts. Activities include but are not limited to: sightseeing, hiking, camping, photography, boating, hunting, freshwater fishing, and nature viewing. These activities generally occur within one-half mile inland from the mean high-tide line, or along streams and trails accessed from the shoreline.

The proposed action allocates a specific amount of the recreation carrying capacity to commercial use in units of “group days” for each Use Area and each season. The allocation ranges from 5 to 40 percent of the total recreation capacity depending on the Use Area. Each allocation is based on factors such as the proximity of the Use Area to communities, the amount of subsistence use, and potential resource impacts. Commercial outfitter/guide use would be reduced during the spring and fall seasons to keep the number of social encounters low and to provide more opportunities for solitude. For more details on the proposed action, see Alternative 2 in Chapter 2.

While the Forest Service manages habitat conditions and social experience, commercial activities that involve taking fish or game are authorized under the

Executive Summary

regulations and harvest limits established by the Alaska Board of Game, Alaska Board of Fisheries, and the Federal Subsistence Board. If fish or game harvest levels begin to approach harvest limits, outfitter guides will be required to modify their operations in accordance with State and Federal regulations. In the event that hunting or fishing resources remain restricted for a prolonged period, the Forest Service may use a competitive process to allocate outfitter guide capacity for national forest lands in the affected area.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of this action is to manage outfitter/guide use of the Tongass National Forest shoreline zone analysis area in a manner consistent with the Forest Plan. This management would balance commercial and non-commercial recreational opportunities and reduce the potential for user conflicts. Guided visitor use levels would be managed to maintain quality recreation experiences without causing unacceptable impacts to forest resources or to the recreation experiences sought by both guided and unguided recreationists.

This action is needed to meet Forest Plan goals and objectives relating to recreation, tourism, and economic support to communities; and to meet the increased demand for guided recreation while protecting the ecosystem. Former management direction for outfitters and guides has expired; current direction is provided on a case-by-case basis. Comprehensive, consistent direction is needed for managing commercial recreation use across the analysis area.

Forest Plan goals and objectives applicable to the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide analysis area include those that:

- offer a range of recreation opportunities consistent with public demand,
- contribute to the local and regional economies of Southeast Alaska,
- provide national forest visitors with visually appealing scenery, and
- allocate recreation use consistent with the ecosystem goals and objectives in the Forest Plan while protecting forest resources.

Decision Framework

Decision

The decision based on this EIS will authorize the issuing of commercial use permits on the national forest within the shoreline zone of the analysis area. The decision, which will be documented in a Record of Decision (ROD), will:

- specify the amount of the carrying capacity allocated to commercial recreation use for each Use Area in each season in group days,
- specify the general types of commercial recreation activities permitted,
- clarify the methods of access approved for low-impact commercial uses,
- specify the type and location of areas where large commercial groups can occur and under what conditions,

Executive Summary

- specify the mitigation measures for commercial recreation activities to reduce user conflicts and resource impacts, and
- establish monitoring requirements.

The decision will not:

- regulate non-commercial or unguided use,
- address or authorize ground-disturbing activities, assign sites, or other forms of development,
- make allocations to specific commercial businesses, or
- authorize helicopter or OHV use.

This decision will also establish findings including the following:

- whether there may be a significant restriction on subsistence uses,
- whether the activities are consistent with the Alaska Coastal Zone Management Plan, and
- effects on Essential Fish Habitat.

Responsible Official

The Forest Supervisor of the Tongass National Forest is the responsible official who will sign the ROD. The responsible official may select any one of the alternatives analyzed in this FEIS including the no-action alternative, or a modified alternative combining parts of different alternatives, as long as the effects of the modified alternative have been fully analyzed and disclosed in the FEIS.

Description of the Analysis Area

The entire Shoreline Outfitter/Guide analysis area includes approximately 7,018,700 acres of the Admiralty Island National Monument, and the Hoonah, Sitka, and Juneau Ranger Districts on the northern half of the Tongass National Forest. The shoreline zone of the analysis area extends one-half mile inland from mean high tide, and is the zone where much of the dispersed recreation use occurs on the Forest. Approximately 983,060 acres of the shoreline zone is within the national forest. This includes approximately 5,280 miles of shoreline.

Two areas on Admiralty Island were excluded from the analysis: Mitchell Bay and environs, which is the area surrounding the Village of Angoon; and the Pack Creek Zoological Area which is being considered under a separate analysis. The national forest shorelines associated with the Juneau and Sitka road systems receive more concentrated local use and are generally less desirable for remote-setting commercial outfitting and guiding operations, so are not included in this analysis.

The analysis area is divided into Use Areas. These areas are shown in Chapter 1 of the EIS (Figure 1-1).

Public Involvement

Public scoping was the key process used to identify issues in this analysis. Scoping began in October 1998 and continued through the summer of 2001. Many methods

Executive Summary

were used to notify the public and request input for the analysis, including: public meetings, presentations to organizations, personal communications, scoping documents, newsletters, and radio news stories. Specific key features included the Schedule of Proposed Actions, the project Notice of Intent, the project mailing list, and other scoping milestones. The original Notice of Intent (NOI) was published in the *Federal Register* on January 18, 2000.

Response from the public led to revision of the project scope, broadening the focus beyond direct allocation of brown bear guided hunts to include the overall allocation for shoreline commercial activities. It was felt that the conflicts between segments of the commercial outfitter guiding industry, as well as the unintended consequences of incremental management, would be better addressed in a document that looked at remote area recreation in a more holistic fashion. A Revised NOI was published in the *Federal Register* on April 5, 2001 to inform the public of changes in the scope of the analysis and the revised schedule.

The Forest Service fostered collaborative stewardship by working closely with other government agencies and federally recognized tribal governments and entities. Collaboration took various forms: formal and informal consultations with tribes and agencies, as well as reviews by agencies with regulatory authority over activities considered in the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide EIS. Some commercial outfitter/guide activities authorized by this decision may require permits from other federal and state agencies.

Issues

Significant issues for the Shoreline Outfitter/Guide Draft EIS were identified by: the public during scoping, current agency issues, and comments from other government agencies.

The following three significant issues emerged from the scoping efforts. Each issue is displayed to stand alone. However, there is some overlap between the issues due to the different perspectives of individual recreationists and the recreation industry.

Each alternative was evaluated against the issues. Measures included both qualitative and quantitative values. Many of the measurements generated are directly proportional to the amount and season of recreation carrying capacity allocated to commercial use.

Issue 1. Availability of Recreation Opportunities for the Guided and Unguided Recreationist

Issue 1 focuses on the people who recreate on the national forest. Both guided and unguided recreationists often pursue the same type of recreation experience. The issue reflects the need for a variety of quality recreation opportunities for both guided and unguided recreationists on the national forest. It revolves around social interactions and recreation experience expectations and the effects on those interactions and expectations from the management of commercial uses as described in the alternatives.

Executive Summary

Issue 2. Economic Opportunities and Potential Effects on Outfitter/Guide Businesses

Issue 2 focuses on the recreation industry rather than on individual recreationists. It responds to recreation industry concerns about economic opportunities and the influence of outfitter/guide management on their businesses.

Issue 3. Conflicts Within the Commercial Recreation Industry

There is a broad diversity in the types and size of businesses involved in commercial recreation. Some of these differences can lead to conflicts among the different commercial recreation businesses. These conflicts are the focus of Issue 3, which also deals with social interactions and expectations for recreation experiences.

Other Environmental Considerations

In addition to the significant issues described above, the public raised many other concerns during the scoping period. Although these concerns may be addressed to varying degrees in the analysis, they were not considered significant issues, as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and they did not drive the development of alternatives to the proposed action. Other concerns are not related to the decision or their resolution is outside the scope of this analysis. Many potential resource effects would have the same mitigation in all alternatives or are controlled through adherence to Forest Plan standards and guidelines.

Concerns were expressed about the following resources, which are addressed in Chapter 3 under Other Environmental Considerations: biodiversity, soils, wetlands, vegetation, wildlife, fish habitat and water quality, threatened and endangered species, karst and cave resources, subsistence, heritage resources, and air quality.

Alternatives Considered in Detail

Alternative 1 (no action), and Alternatives 2 (proposed action), 3, 4, and 5 are considered in detail. The proposed action represents the initial proposal to meet the purpose and need. The other action alternatives represent different ways of satisfying the purpose and need by applying different strategies to address significant issues.

Alternative 1 – No Action

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations requires a ‘no-action’ alternative be analyzed in every EIS. The no-action alternative for this EIS, Alternative 1, represents the existing condition of recreation management in the analysis area. Alternative 1 would continue the present management practices of the outfitter/guide Special Uses program. It would not provide a specific allocation of the recreation carrying capacity to commercial use and it would not preclude commercial use. The details of this alternative are listed below and displayed in Table 2-1. Figure 1-1 in Chapter 1 shows the location of each Use Area.

- No specific allocation for commercial recreation carrying capacity currently exists. Commercial use would be equal to the actual use authorized annually on a case-by-case basis, which could be up to half of the appropriate recreation carrying capacity. The authorized officer (in this case, the District Ranger) who signs the special use permit determines appropriate carrying capacity. By specific location, there would be consideration of various allocations based on historical use,

Executive Summary

changing demand, spatial zoning, or temporal zoning (Forest Plan, 1997; pages 4-41).

- Outfitters and guides would apply for permit renewal, but no new or additional priority use permits would be issued without additional environmental analysis. Existing multi-year priority use authorizations would continue for the remaining permitted time period. At that point, they would be considered for reissuance on an annual basis only, pending additional environmental analysis.
- A separate competitive process would address the existing moratoriums limiting commercial use. These include the bear guide moratorium and site-specific commercial use stipulations on the Hoonah, Sitka, and Juneau Ranger Districts and Admiralty National Monument.
- Commercial use would not be managed on a seasonal basis.
- No large group areas would be designated for active management.

Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Alternative 2 is the proposed action. It provides a specific commercial use allocation for each Use Area and season, with a moderate level of commercial use.

- Up to 16,175 commercial groups would be able to use the analysis area through the spring, summer, and fall seasons.
- Approximately 21 percent of the total recreation carrying capacity would be allocated to commercial use for the analysis area as a whole through all seasons. Individual Use Area allocations range between approximately 10 and 40 percent of the total recreation carrying capacity.
- Emphasis is on limiting commercial use during the spring and fall seasons to reduce encounters and provide more opportunities for solitude. Spring and fall commercial allocations would be about 10 percent of the total carrying capacity.
- Allocations in Use Areas with communities are generally reduced and range between 10 and 30 percent of the carrying capacity.
- No large group areas would be designated for active management.
- This alternative would not authorize wheeled airplane access.
- Commercial use on the Mud Bay River would be prohibited.
- Site-specific descriptions, resource considerations, and mitigation measures for each Use Area are provided in Appendices A and C.

Alternative 3

Alternative 3 provides a specific commercial use allocation for each Use Area and season. It was developed to evaluate the highest allocation level allowed in the Forest Plan. Specific Use Area allocations would allow for the most growth in the recreation industry. In general, there is less emphasis on providing opportunities for solitude and more on increasing visitor access to the national forest. There are fewer restrictions to commercial use; restrictions are primarily for essential resource protection.

- Up to 39,297 commercial groups would be able to use the analysis area through the spring, summer, and fall seasons.

Executive Summary

- Approximately 50 percent of the total recreation carrying capacity would be allocated to commercial use through all three seasons.
- Spring and fall season commercial allocations would be 50 percent of the carrying capacity.
- Commercial allocations in Use Areas containing communities would be up to 50 percent of the carrying capacity.
- Thirty-three (33) Enclaves would be designated for large group use (Figure 2-1 and Figure 2-2 and Table 2-4).
- Large group use in Enclave areas would be allowed in all seasons. Group size in these areas would be limited to a maximum of 75 people and only one large group would be able to use an area at a time.
- Thirteen (13) Fifteen-Percent areas would be designated for large group use (Figure 2-1 and Figure 2-2 and Table 2-5).
- Large group use could occur in Fifteen-Percent areas only in the summer season. Group size in these areas would be limited to a maximum of 75 people, and only one large group would be able to use an area at a time.
- Wheeled airplane use would be allowed in Neka Bay (in Use Area 04-11) and Mud Bay (in Use Area 04-16B) a maximum of three times per week during summer and fall seasons when requested by outfitter/guides to accommodate a person with a disability.
- Site-specific descriptions, resource considerations, and mitigation measures for each Use Area are provided in Appendices A and C.
- Site-specific descriptions, resource considerations, and mitigation measures for each large group area are provided in Appendices B and C.

Alternative 4

Alternative 4 provides specific commercial use allocations for each Use Area and season. It provides the lowest commercial allocation. Overall, there is an emphasis on providing more opportunities for recreation experiences with solitude. This alternative is the most restrictive on commercial uses to reduce social conflicts.

- Up to 6,059 commercial groups would be able to use the analysis area through the spring, summer, and fall seasons.
- Approximately 8 percent of the total recreation carrying capacity would be allocated to commercial use for the analysis area as a whole through all seasons. Commercial allocations for each Use Area range between 5 and 25 percent of the total carrying capacity.
- This alternative emphasizes lower limits on commercial use levels than the proposed action to reduce encounters and provide more opportunities for solitude during both the spring and fall seasons. The spring commercial allocation would be up to 15 percent of the carrying capacity and the fall commercial allocation would be up to 25 percent in some areas.
- Commercial allocations in Use Areas containing communities would be less than 15 percent of the carrying capacity.
- Twelve (12) Enclaves would be designated for large group use (Figures 2-3 and 2-4 and Table 2-7).

Executive Summary

- Large group use in Enclave areas would be allowed in the spring, summer, and fall seasons. Group size in these areas would be limited to a maximum of 75 people, and only one large group would be able to use an area at a time.
- Three (3) Fifteen-Percent areas would be designated for large group use (Figures 2-3 and 2-4 and Table 2-8).
- Large group use in Fifteen-Percent areas could only occur in the summer season. Group size in these areas would be limited to a maximum of 75 people, and only one large group would be able to use an area at a time.
- Wheeled airplane use would be allowed in Neka Bay (in Use Area 04-11) and Mud Bay (in Use Area 04-16B) a maximum of three times per week during summer and fall seasons when requested by outfitter/guides to accommodate a person with a disability.
- Site-specific descriptions, resource considerations, and mitigation measures for each Use Area are provided in Appendices A and C.
- Site-specific descriptions, resource considerations, and mitigation measures for each large group area are provided in Appendices B and C.

Alternative 5

Alternative 5 provides a specific commercial use allocation for each Use Area and season. It provides for a moderate level of commercial use. There are some restrictions to commercial use to reduce social conflicts.

- Up to 17,530 commercial groups would be able to use the analysis area through the spring, summer, and fall seasons.
- Approximately 23 percent of the total recreation carrying capacity would be allocated to commercial use for the analysis area as a whole through all three seasons. Commercial allocations in each Use Area range between about 10 and 40 percent of the carrying capacity. The allocation varies to achieve site-specific management objectives.
- Alternative 5 emphasizes limited commercial use during only the spring season to reduce encounters and provide more opportunities for solitude. Spring allocation would be about 10 percent of the total carrying capacity.
- Commercial allocations in Use Areas with communities are generally reduced and range from 10 to 40 percent of the total carrying capacity.
- This alternative would designate twenty-eight (28) Enclaves for large group use (Figures 2-5 and 2-6 and Table 2-10).
- Large group use in Enclave areas would be allowed in all three seasons. Group size in these areas would be limited to a maximum of 75 people, and only one large group would be able to use an area at a time.
- This alternative would designate eight (8) Fifteen-Percent areas for large group use (Figure 2-5 and Figure 2-6 and Table 2-11).
- Large group use could occur in Fifteen-Percent areas only in the summer season. Group size in these areas would be limited to a maximum of 75 people, and only one large group would be able to use an area at a time.
- Limited wheeled airplane landings would be allowed in Neka Bay (in Use Area 04-11) and Mud Bay (in Use Area 04-16B) under daily and/or

Executive Summary

weekly restrictions. Neka Bay landings would only be authorized to accommodate persons with disabilities.

- Site-specific descriptions, resource considerations, and mitigation measures for each Use Area are provided in Appendices A and C.
- Site-specific descriptions, resource considerations, and mitigation measures for each large group area are provided in Appendices B and C.

Identification of the Preferred Alternative

Alternative 5 was identified in the Draft EIS as the preferred alternative. It was felt this alternative represented an ability to respond to public concerns for crowding while providing for growth in the outfitter guide industry. The Preferred Alternative is different from the original Proposed Alternative because it reflects comments and concerns expressed by the public, communities, other agencies and organizations, and from the outfitter guides. All of the alternatives have equal standing with the responsible official, who may select any one of the alternatives analyzed. Alternatives may also be modified as long as the effects of the modified alternative fall within the range of effects described in this analysis.

Executive Summary

Comparison of the Alternatives

Tables Summary-1 and Summary-2 provide summary comparisons of the five alternatives. See Chapter 2 of this EIS for details.

Table Summary-1. Comparison of Alternatives, General

Alternative	General Description	Average Total Recreation Carrying Capacity Allocated to Commercial Use for Spring, Summer and Fall Seasons
1 No Action	Existing conditions. Continues present management practices of the outfitter/guide Special Uses program.	No specific allocation. Commercial use allowed on a case-by-case basis. Up to 50%
2 Proposed Action	Emphasis on limiting commercial use during spring and fall, no large group areas, no commercial wheeled airplane access.	Moderate Approximately 21%
3	Less emphasis on providing opportunities for solitude, more emphasis on increasing visitor access and commercial opportunity, limits commercial wheeled airplane landings in Neka Bay and Mud Bay. 48 large group areas identified.	Highest Approximately 50%
4	Emphasis on providing more opportunities for solitude, limits commercial wheeled airplane landings in Neka Bay and Mud Bay. 15 large group areas identified.	Lowest Approximately 8%
5	Emphasis on limited commercial use during spring, some large group areas, limits commercial wheeled airplane landings in Neka Bay and Mud Bay. 38 large group areas identified.	Moderate Approximately 23%

Executive Summary

Table Summary-2. Comparison of Alternatives by Issue

Issue / Unit of Measure	Alternative				
	1	2	3	4	5
Issue 1 – Recreation Opportunities for Guided and Unguided Recreationists					
Total recreation carrying capacity (group days) available to guided recreationists	**	16,175	39,297	6,059	17,530
Amount of recreation available to unguided recreationists (group days)	40,658	65,141	42,019	75,257	63,786
Estimated number of people who could use commercial services to access the national forest (assumes average commercial group size of six)	243,948	97,050	235,782	36,354	105,180
Commercial allocation for spring (opportunities for solitude)	**	1,693	8,463	1,202	1,995
Commercial allocation for summer (opportunities for solitude)	**	12,588	21,359	3,722	10,737
Commercial allocation for fall (opportunities for solitude)	**	1,894	9,475	1,135	4,798
Number of Enclaves allowing large group use	0	0	33	12	28
Total area (acres) of Enclaves	0	0	6,100	2,100	4,900
Number of Fifteen-Percent areas allowing large group use	0	0	13	3	8
Total area (acres) of Fifteen-Percent areas	0	0	3,360	570	1,860
Limits on commercial use in Use Areas with communities	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Issue 2 – Economic Opportunities and Potential Impacts on Commercial Outfitter/Guide Businesses					
Commercial allocation available in group days	NA	16,175	39,297	6,059	17,530
Percent of recreation capacity allocated to commercial use	3-50**	21	50	8	23
Average (1999-2001) commercial use levels in group days	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Group days available for industry growth above current average (1999-2001) use levels	NA	13,675	36,797	3,559	15,030
Number of Use Area seasons approaching, at, or near allocated capacity	NA	10	0	4	8
Number of Enclaves allowing large group use	0	0	33	12	28
Number of Fifteen percent areas allowing large group use	0	0	13	3	8
Contributes to business stability and certainty by establishing predictable use levels and allowing for multi-year Special Use permits	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Issue 3 – Conflicts Within the Commercial Recreation Industry					
Establishes recreation management seasons	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Limits commercial allocations in the spring season	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Limits commercial allocations in the fall season	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Designates Enclaves and Fifteen-Percent Areas for large group use	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Specifies maximum size of large groups in Large Group Areas	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

** No specific allocation is made. Commercial use is allowed on a case-by-case basis up to 50 percent of the recreation carrying capacity.

Executive Summary

Mitigation and Monitoring

Mitigation

The analysis documented in this EIS discloses the possible adverse impacts that may occur from implementing the actions proposed under each alternative. Measures have been formulated to mitigate or reduce these impacts. A comprehensive list of mitigation measures apply to the commercial recreation activities for all of the action alternatives. These are listed in Appendix C, Mitigation Measures. In addition, site-specific resource concerns and mitigation measures are listed on the Use Area cards in Appendix A and on the Large Group Area Cards in Appendix B.

Monitoring

Monitoring is a critical component of this project. Commercial recreation management at the scale proposed in this analysis is relatively new to the Forest Service in Southeast Alaska. Many of the social facets of recreation are not fully understood. Recreation use levels are dynamic and fluctuate from year to year. Reliable site-specific unguided recreation use information is not currently available. The environmental effects of recreation use are also not well known. Through monitoring and analysis of trends over time, the Forest Service can achieve a better understanding of these effects and adapt its management as necessary. A monitoring plan is provided in Appendix D.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Federal Recycling Program
Printed on Recycled Paper